The Norweb Collection

An American Legacy

By
Michael Hodder
— and —
Q. David Bowers

219/1000

With appreciation
to
Eric P. Newman
from

Mich[illegible]

[illegible]
10/1/87

The Norweb Collection

An American Legacy

Published by:

Bowers and Merena Galleries, Inc.
Box 1224, Wolfeboro, New Hampshire 03894

All rights concerning this book are reserved by Bowers and Merena Galleries, Inc. Written permission is required for the reproduction of any information in this book, except for brief excerpts used in a review in a newspaper or magazine.

© 1987 by Bowers and Merena Galleries, Inc.

ISBN 0-943161-00-2

The Norweb Collection

An American Legacy

By
Michael Hodder
— and —
Q. David Bowers

Published by:
Bowers and Merena Galleries, Inc
Box 1224
Wolfeboro, New Hampshire 03894

Acknowledgments

This book could not have been written without the valuable assistance, freely given, of many friends and researchers. The authors are indebted to many, but especially to the following.

First mention must be made of Mr. and Mrs. R. Henry Norweb, Jr. They both gave of their time and effort, making personal and family archival material available to the authors, which became the basis for most of what appears in this book. R. Henry Norweb, Jr.'s gracious cooperation made our task that much easier.

Margo Russell, *Coin World* editor emeritus, kindly agreed to compose a foreword for this book. Margo was a long-time personal friend of Mrs. Norweb, and her warm appreciation sets a sympathetic tone for what follows it.

Thanks are due to Roy Ash, for unclassified information about the present status of the Azores bases; Mary Doering and Frank Stipkala of the American Red Cross; Carl Francis, curator of the mineralogical collection at Harvard University; Robert Hagley, of the *Plain Dealer*, who arranged for archival material for our use; Kenneth Hawley, chief curator of Later Western Art, the Cleveland Museum of Art; the Office of the Historian, United States Department of State; Ken Hostetler of the Public Relations office of Kennecott Copper Company; Dr. Kim McCarter, Chairman of the Department of Mining of the University of Utah; Flora Lee Millsaps of Salt Lake City, Utah, who searched the archives of the Utah State Historical Society and the *Deseret News* for information about the Holdens' mining ventures there; Kermit Pike, Director of the Library, The Western Reserve Historical Society; Thomas Vail, publisher and editor of the *Plain Dealer*, whose openness and willing cooperation were invaluable; Christine Wiltanger, freelance researcher, whose work in the New York Public Library made Albert Holden's business empire come alive in these pages.

Many friends in the world of numismatics offered their help and resources in this project. We wish to acknowledge specially the following. John W. Adams, for invaluable historical assistance; John J. Ford, Jr., whose encouragement and advice were invaluable; Harry Forman, for recollections concerning Mrs. Norweb; Arthur M. Kagin, for recollections concerning Mrs. Norweb; Abner Kreisberg, for information concerning Mrs. Norweb; Eric P. Newman, for loaning correspondence with the Norwebs; John J. Pittman, for recollections concerning Mrs. Norweb.

The staff librarians of the American Numismatic Association; Leslie Elam, William Metcalf, and Frank Campbell of the American Numismatic Society; and Mrs. Elvira Clain-Stefanelli, curator of the National Collection at the Smithsonian; all provided essential information regarding important activities and donations made by the Norwebs.

Thanks are due to Mrs. Marion (Margo) Russell for clippings and historical information; *Coin World*, Beth Deisher, editor, for photographs, files, and historical information; and Neil Harris, editor, *The Numismatist*. The librarians of the Special Collections Department of Dartmouth College provided useful assistance. Special thanks to Louise Gehman, librarian of the Wolfeboro, N.H. Public Library, for bearing with many interlibrary loan requests.

Many individuals agreed to be interviewed for this book, and their personal reminiscences about the Norwebs have added color to our story. We extend particular appreciation to the following. R. Henry Norweb, Jr; Mother Mary Joseph, O.C.D.; Albert Holden Norweb; Erla Mae Inks and Doris C. Brayton, (secretaries to Mrs. Norweb from 1949-1983); Thomas Vail; Elvira Clain-Stefanelli; John J. Ford, Jr.; and Kenneth Hawley.

The following members of the Bowers and Merena Galleries staff provided assistance in the following ways: Mary K. Valley typeset the manuscript; Cathy W. Dumont photographed numismatic specimens from the Norweb Collection; and the following Graphic Arts Department staff members helped with production: J.E. McCabe, William Winter, Margaret Graf, Linda A. Heilig, Judy Bouchard, and Lee Blythe Lilljedahl.

Table of Contents

Acknowledgments 4
Introduction 7
Appreciation 9
Foreword
By Margo Russell 11

Chapter One
Liberty E. Holden 17
Chapter Two
Albert F. Holden 51
Chapter Three
Emery May Norweb 91
Chapter Four
R. Henry Norweb, Sr. 123
Chapter Five
R. Henry Norweb, Jr. 145
Chapter Six
The Norweb Collection 159

Appendix One
Albert Holden's Inventory 207
Appendix Two
Norweb Correspondence 223
Index 281

Introduction

It was in the mid-1950s that I first met the Honorable and Mrs. R. Henry Norweb. Their reputation preceded them, and when we crossed paths at a convention, I knew that they not only possessed one of the finest cabinets of United States and world coins ever assembled, but, equally important, were true connoisseurs and studied and appreciated what they owned. We conversed on various subjects, with Emery May Holden Norweb (always addressed by me formally as Mrs. Norweb) relating her particular interest in colonial and early American coins, which she studied by die varieties. I expressed interest in viewing her legendary holdings, and while she stated that they were not organized in a manner that everything could be seen, she would be delighted to have me visit her in Cleveland to examine any particular series or specialty. At a later meeting, when I mentioned that I was going to be on an extended tour in New England in the summer of 1957, she graciously invited me to pay a visit to the villa located in Boothbay Harbor, Maine.

During the years afterward, I kept in touch with the Norwebs, offering them interesting specimens from time to time. I was privileged to be among their friends, in addition to being a dealer-supplier, and today I remember many interesting happenings along the route of our acquaintance. I was Ambassador R. Henry Norweb's guest on several occasions at his private club in New York City, and, after having dinner, went with him to several meetings of the New York Coin Club, an organization which then, as now, emphasized the study, appreciation, and scholarship of coins. On another occasion, a rare 1804 silver dollar was coming up at auction. He asked me what it would bring, and the best advice of the time was that it might fetch in the $15,000 to $20,000 range. "Bid whatever you think is appropriate. Go to $25,000 or more, if you want to, for I want to give it to Emery May as a surprise birthday present," he advised me. I asked him if he planned to attend the sale and watch me bid, as he was in New York City at the time, but he said, "No, you go ahead—and then give me a call and let me know how you made out." As it turned out, I bid the piece up to $28,000, a new record, but lost it to a Florida collector who bid one jump beyond that point.

The passing of the Honorable and Mrs. R. Henry Norweb left a void in numismatics which will never be filled. However, their legacy lives on, in coins donated by them to the American Numismatic Society and the Smithsonian Institution, prize rarities which will be forever enjoyed by those who appreciate them, as well as the thousands of individual specimens of world coinage sold at auction earlier by Christie's, English coins sold by Spink & Son, Ltd., and United States coins owned by their son to be sold in the future by Auctions by Bowers and Merena, Inc. The pedigree "From the Norweb Collection" does and will continue to have special significance.

The charm and grace of the Honorable R. Henry and Mrs. Norweb was vested in their son, R. Henry Norweb, Jr., and his wife Libby. In a rare instance of one generation maintaining the illustrious tradition of an earlier one, Mr. and Mrs. R. Henry Norweb, Jr., have been involved in many philanthropies, and on the numismatic scene, have made many important contributions. At present, R. Henry Norweb, Jr. is a member of the Council of the American Numismatic Society and has helped to lead that august body.

It was a great pleasure when the Norweb family named my firm to sell at auction their cabinet of United States and colonial coins. I had known the pieces by reputation only, and, although I had seen scattered pieces earlier, was not familiar with the whole. Nor had any other numismatist ever examined the collection from beginning to end, for the immense holding was never completely catalogued and organized. It was a "living collection," so to speak, and the Norwebs enjoyed working on it over a long period of years. Indeed, R. Henry Norweb, Jr. relates that his mother and father often packed a picnic lunch, took it to a large walk-in bank vault in downtown Cleveland, and spent the day working with their coins! That every person dreads the completion of his life's work was stated by philosopher Oswald Spengler, and in this vein, I doubt if the Honorable and Mrs. R. Henry Norweb would have been pleased if one day they had considered the collection to be "finished." Rather, it was something to continually work on, to improve, to study, and beyond that to use as a vehicle to meet many people and to participate in many events. Although coins were the focal point of activity, I am sure it is correct to say that no member of the Norweb family, past or present, ever put coins before personal relationships. "I would like to buy your 1894-S dime, *if you would like to sell it to me*," the Honorable R. Henry

Norweb stated to me in 1958. Such an approach was far different from the usual "What is the least amount you will take for it?" typically encountered.

The occasion of the sale of the Norweb cabinet of United States and colonial coins, to be presented in separate catalogues in 1987 and 1988, furnishes the opportunity for the present book. The catalogues themselves tell of the coins, the varieties, and their histories. The present book tells of the *people* involved, the several generations of the Norweb family involved in numismatics, from the 19th century down to the present day. One can always read about coins; but, reading about "coin people" is an opportunity not often encountered, for, with relatively few exceptions, the personal lives of numismatists who have gone before us are not well documented. To Michael J. Hodder goes the credit for the lion's share of the data presented in the following pages. At one time early in 1987, he had five different researchers working for him in as many different states tracking down tidbits of information concerning the Norwebs and their forebears, Liberty and Albert Holden.

I express my appreciation to Michael Hodder, the staff of Bowers and Merena Galleries, and to the various individuals and institutions who helped with what turned out to be an immense writing project. While specific credits are given on an appropriate page, I especially thank Margo Russell, editor emeritus of *Coin World*, who wrote a personal foreword to the book. Margo herself is one of the great figures of the numismatic hobby, and it is to be hoped that someday a book can be written about her own experiences; if by her own hand it certainly will provide a marvelous insight into numismatics during the years in which she was involved, from the early 1960s onward.

To Mr. and Mrs. R. Henry Norweb, Jr. I am grateful for the opportunity to write these words, and to present the Norweb cabinet at auction. To the numismatists worldwide who acquire individual coins from the Norweb holdings, I hope that each piece, common or rare, will carry with it a special aura from having been in a special collection, formed by very special people.

—Q. David Bowers
Wolfeboro, New Hampshire
July 1, 1987

An Appreciation

It has been a great pleasure to research and write this book with Q. David Bowers. The Holden-Norweb family was, and is, a fascinating one, with a history that reaches back to our own country's beginnings and that can be traced further in the records of our parent's past. To an historian, the challenge of this book was to place the two families into their historical contexts. Their importance to history rewarded us with episodes which, we hope, will be found interesting by other readers.

Most histories written about coin collectors and their collections have concentrated on their hobby activities. This was, originally, to have been the procedure we were to follow. After only a short time, however, our focus changed. We had found that the Holdens and Norwebs enjoyed roles in our country's history that not only illustrated, as in a microcosm, broad changes in the historical scenes of their times, but that also played significant parts in its unfolding.

Liberty Emery Holden was one of the earliest and most important developers of Utah's silver mines, around Bingham Canyon. Yet his memory in Utah had been forgotten, despite its importance to the state's history. This book has rectified that lapse in the historical record. Albert Fairchild Holden, his son, created one of the greatest of the early 20th century business trusts. Yet, like his father, history had unfairly overlooked his importance. His story was a tragically short one, but in the score of years he was active he accomplished more than other men failed to in a lifetime.

Emery May Holden Norweb certainly became our favorite figure in this story. She was a beautiful young woman in 1917, and it was not hard to see how she could turn a young man's head. Her early childhood was as tragic as her father's and her diaries from the time have a poignancy that outlasts the years. Her marriage to Henry Norweb was her salvation, as she would have said herself. Her father's influence on her personal development gave her the courage to persevere through trying times. It also gave her a love of numismatic study and acquisition, and so, directly, gave us a great collection to appreciate.

The Holden-Norweb families presented an unusual challenge to a research numismatist. We knew of Mrs. Norweb's importance to our hobby before we started. There were vaguely remembered stories of her father, Albert Holden, being a collector of coins, but no one we contacted had heard of him before. It was our good fortune that his daughter preserved the pedigrees of many of his coin purchases in her own collection records. Using these, and with the help of other numismatic researchers, we have been able to present to a modern generation of collectors a colleague who had been forgotten by an earlier one. During his most active period, from 1907-1910, Albert Holden created a coin collection that today would be considered one of the finest ever assembled. Had he lived beyond 1913 I have no doubt that, in its size and contents, his collection would have rivalled that formed by T. Harrison Garrett and continued by his son, John Work Garrett. That he did not provided the impetus to his daughter to continue in her father's path. To my mind, one of the most significant results of our research has been the resurrection of a major collector whose obscurity, although self-chosen, is no longer warranted or deserved.

Throughout its creation this book has been a labor of love. Other researchers have proven their own love for numismatics, by giving their time and resources freely and often in larger measure than expected. My personal thanks go to John J. Ford, Jr., my friend and mentor in numismatics.

This book has been largely about fathers and their influences on their children. In closing, I would like to dedicate my small part in this project to my own father, who taught me the value of perseverence by his example of that most demanding virtue.

Honor and shame from no condition rise;
Act well your part; there all the honor lies.

Alexander Pope, *An Essay on Man*, iv (1734)

Michael Hodder

Foreword

A dedication by Margo Russell, *Coin World* editor, emeritus

All passes. Art alone
Enduring stays to us;
The bust outlasts the throne—
The coin, Tiberius

Henry Austin Dobson
--Ars Victrix st. 8

Painstakingly assemble collections—everything from utilitarian, common metal tokens to the rarest of rare gold coins. Enjoy them. Study them. Glean from them all they convey about man and his culture. Capture them in epic books and papers. Then as a matter of inherent family discipline and dedication to philanthropy, hand the objects on to others so they may have the same pleasure and privilege.

Such is the philosophy of the Holdens and the Norwebs, a world-famous numismatic family now in its fourth generation of active collectors with the promise of the fifth in the wings.

Although the distinguished Ohio family has touched countless lives in other ways through art, journalism, and world diplomacy, and as leaders of Cleveland's civic, cultural, and social accomplishments, it is the substance of its numismatic collections that may have the most meaning of all in centuries to come, thus exemplifying Henry Austin Dobson's lines.

Liberty Emery Holden began the numismatic collection in the last century. His son, Albert Fairchild Holden, continued it. Emery May Holden Norweb and her husband, R. Henry Norweb, Sr., expanded it as they traveled the world diplomatic route. Their son, Henry Norweb, Jr., and his wife, Elizabeth (Libby to her friends) continue to this day to build, to nurture, to disseminate numismatic materials and knowledge.

How fortunate for the numismatic world the family considers itself in the role of caretakers only. Systematically the family has given its collections including great rarities to numismatic institutions where exposure is the greatest for collectors in this country, and for visiting scholars from abroad, the recipients being the venerable American Numismatic Society in New York and the national coin collection housed in the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History.

The numismatic sales after the death of the senior Norwebs represent another important and democratic way the family selected to disperse further the material, to give back to the numismatic world what the Holdens and the senior Norwebs enjoyed to the utmost.

This leaves the present generation of Norwebs to continue its own numismatic interests, to continue to build its own collections with commitment and a deep sense of the importance of sharing time and resources to further organized numismatics, especially in behalf of the American Numismatic Society.

This book then, so eloquently and so carefully prepared by Michael J. Hodder and Q. David Bowers, is about remembrance of a great and generous numismatic family, to borrow a word without sacrilege from a Communion token Emery May Norweb designed. It is a book about a family which was given the power of perpetuating a numismatic legacy. This it has done—and continues to do by sharing it with others in creative ways.

This remarkable family, scholarly, generous and modest, has touched—and continues to touch thousands of lives in a numismatic way that may never be repeated in quantity—unless, of course, their frequent admonishment to share with others is obeyed. To paraphrase Maclaren, the treasures kept in the Holden-Norweb coffers are very real. But before they handed them to the rest of us, they kept them in their intellect and in their soul. . . .

Thoughts about the Norwebs. . . .

"I have loved coins for decades, and was allowed by the good Lord to work on them longer than I had a right to expect," Emery May Holden Norweb told me a short time before her death in 1984 at the age of 88.

Her frank use of past tense made me sad for a gallant lady. Her eyesight had dimmed, but she had mastered Braille. Her health was frail, but nothing could affect her marvelous intellectual powers that took her to the pinnacle of world numismatics.

Looking back, I see her knowing, her intuition caused her to acknowledge her collecting time was running out. She was facing up to it in a brave, forthright, realistic way—the way she lived her life.

When I entered the wide, wonderful world of numismatic journalism in 1960 I was called upon to make a quick study of Who's Who in Numismatics. Mr. and Mrs. R. Henry Norweb, Sr. were especially intriguing to me because they were Ohioans and because of their newspaper affiliation.

Mrs. Norweb's grandfather, Liberty Emery Holden, founded one of my favorite newspapers, *The Cleveland Plain Dealer.* Then my research turned up the fact that he, too, was a coin collector as well as his son, Albert Fairchild Holden.

The Norwebs, Emery May and R. Henry, Sr., in turn, watched with interest the progress of *Coin World*, an upstart of specialized journalism started by another Ohio newspaper family, the Amoses—also in its fourth generation of publishing. Here was an unheard-of concept, a weekly newspaper for coin collectors!

The Norwebs soon became *Coin World's* good friends and supporters. All the rest of their lives they wrote and telephoned news tips to us.

I met the Norwebs for the first time in 1964 during the American Numismatic Association Convention in Cleveland. No ordinary hosts, the Norwebs, famous for entertaining throughout world capitals, gave a small party for ANA officials and dignitaries, welcoming their guests with style and grace, traditional of the Norweb family to this very day.

It is doubtful many of the guests were aware at the time that numismatic history was being made. Miss Eva Adams, director of the Mint, honored guest at the Norweb party, had come from Washington for the Cleveland convention to see what this collecting fraternity was all about. . . at the invitation of ANA official Matt Rothert.

I found out later she was most impressed by the caliber of people in the hobby. In turn, collectors were excited to have the attention and the ear of the Mint after a long, unfortunate hiatus during which coin collectors were reported to be designated nuisances by Mint officials. This was a new beginning of a mutual respect that exists now between United States Mint directors and collectors. It has expanded to include top Treasury Department officials, to the mutual benefit of all factions. You can be sure the Norweb diplomacy was important in launching this new relationship.

Even now as I write, I seem to imagine (Irish feyness) some kind of numismatic angel on my shoulder, making certain I live up to the instructions Emery May Norweb gave me when I inherited her seat on the Council of the prestigious American Numismatic Society in New York.

She charged me with a challenge as she reminded me she was the first and only woman on the board, and as No. 2, I must try harder. I have the letter in front of me. Skipping over what she termed "extolling my virtues," she said she was "bursting with pleasure" at my appointment.

"You are the type of person badly needed. You will bring knowledge, experience, a flexible mind, and an unwavering belief in the possibilities of the ANS. Both of us are so proud for you," she wrote in 1979.

I consider her words, "flexible mind" and "unwavering belief," applicable to constructive thinking throughout numismatics. I try to adhere to them.

The Cleveland party given by the Norwebs honored two other numismatic immortals—Dr. V. Clain-Stefanelli and his wife, Elvira Clain-Stefanelli, curators of the national coin collection at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington. The Norwebs had deep regard for the Clain-Stefanellis and their commitment as they built the national collection into its present-day significance.

The last gift the Norwebs gave to the Smithsonian's Division of Numismatics was both a sad and happy tribute. They presented a 52-piece collection of United States colonial coins in honor of R. Henry Norweb, Sr.'s 32 years as a diplomat, and in memory of Dr. Clain-Stefanelli who died in 1982. An earlier Norweb addition to the national cabinet was the famous 1913 Liberty Head nickel to the Smithsonian in 1978. Each time I remember the pleasure expressed by the recipient's officials and the donor for the privilege.

Mrs. Norweb told me at the time of the colonials gift (after she had assembled the small selection of coins) she felt their place was with the American people, both because of interest and because of her loyalty to American numismatics.

"The Smithsonian was the answer," she said. "I have adored coins and their collecting. I hope that others will find new additions and realize that each and every one has its own history," she wrote to me.

Again, hinting that time was scarce, she added a line to the bottom of the letter: "I hope we can meet and at least chat about coins," telling me that writing about them was becoming more and more difficult.

Since Mrs. Norweb's collecting interests were so often esoteric, few collectors knew that she reached into her collection of Presbyterian Communion tokens and revived the practice of their distribution for the Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in Cleveland in observance of its 150th anniversary in June 1967.

She designed the modern-day token by using representative specimens from her collection as models. It is believed that Mrs. Norweb had introduced the first Communion token issued by an Episcopal parish in the United States.

As part of the anniversary celebration she spoke on "The History of the Communion Token" at a dinner which followed the Holy Communion service. She traced the history of the Presbyterian church, which used the tokens in Scotland to identify the faithful and eliminate the Church of England "spies." Presbyterian zeal carried the tokens around the world in later years, in the

United States, Canada, Australia, and other British countries, she said. She had researched the first token to be issued in the United States by the Rev. John Cusperson at Stony Ride, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania in 1792.

I know it was with a great sense of pride that Mrs. Norweb, Sr. saw her daughter-in-law, Libby, wife of R. Henry Norweb, Jr. build her own Communion token collection into thousands of specimens, quietly collecting without fanfare. It was another side of Emery May Norweb (known to drive a devilishly hard bargain in a coin transaction), this spiritual side which saw her give freely of her time and means for the enrichment and beautification of the Cleveland Cathedral.

The art history of the family deserves a book in itself, and hopefully it will be written. She and her family have given so much beauty to the world that it in itself borders on the spirituality.

Recently I thrilled anew during a visit with Mr. and Mrs. Henry Norweb, Jr. as they hosted a party for area members of the American Numismatic Society and its president, Harry W. Fowler.

A drive through the Holden Arboretum near Cleveland, a 2,800-acre preserve, a living museum of natural woodlands, horticultural collections, display gardens, ponds, fields, and ravines was breathtaking. The spring flowers were at their peak, the crabapples, sugarbush and budding lilacs were an incomparable tribute to the great community concern of the family in addition to its numismatic legacy. R. Henry Norweb, Jr. serves as director emeritus.

To continue to see the richness of the legacy of gentility of this grand family, one only has to walk into the lovely, protected "big house" built on the Arboretum grounds by the family in the 1920s. Here there are reminders of all the generations of Holdens and Norwebs. An example is the exquisite needlework of Emery May Norweb. The 14 petit point seats in the dining room are her work.

"Mother viewed our purchase of the table and chairs with approval," Henry Norweb said. "She promptly set to work to produce the heirloom seats. The classic six-foot, four-fold needlepoint screen in the same room is another example of her eye and execution for beauty and precision." The lovely glint of Henry Norweb, Sr.'s French paperweights, now combined with those of Libby, the accommodations ready for visits from their grandchildren, and touches everywhere by the imaginative present occupants are touches that tell more about this unique family. Libby Norweb was president of the Garden Club of America, so one can imagine the creativity of her flower arrangements.

I remember how visible the Norwebs were—Junior and Senior—and how much they enjoyed the September 1973 International Numismatic Congress in New York at the American Numismatic Society and in Washington where it was hosted by the Smithsonian Institution. I believe Henry Norweb, Sr., the inveterate career diplomat, chatted animatedly with every one of the delegates from the 33 countries represented. He especially drew out the guarded, somewhat dour representative of the Soviet Union. Frequently he brought out his new instant camera and presented pictures to his subject on the spot. He had great fun as he made his way through the crowds of numismatists as they gathered in the September sunshine on Audubon Terrace between numismatic lectures.

While Emery May Norweb was exchanging views with colleagues and preparing for her own learned presentation during the Congress, Henry Norweb, Jr. and his wife, Libby, enjoyed the company of the world scholars, and gained a different perspective, a new respect for the science which fascinated the Holden-Norweb family. And it would be but just a few short years before Henry Norweb, Jr. would inherit the family numismatic mantle of ANS governance. He would succeed his father as a member of the American Numismatic Society Council, moving to the vice-presidency, a post he holds today. He gives of his time, his resources and his managerial skills as generously as his parents before him. The senior Norwebs remained lifetime councillors at the Society after their retirement.

It is always the Norweb gift of that famous American colonial coin, the Brasher doubloon, to the Society in 1969 that receives the publicity, but an examination of the list of Norweb contributions to the Society's cabinet, beginning in 1955, is astounding for its scope and importance.

The family generosity of sharing its collections with others after having the joy of assembling and studying them is traditional of all of the Holden-Norweb generations, and continues on to this very day. Emery May Norweb said it often, how she hoped others would follow in their footsteps, enjoy and study and then share. This commitment was very deep.

By the time the senior Norwebs had completed their contributions to the Society they had presented well over a million dollars worth of numismatic material—over 10,000 pieces—but priceless in terms of value to numismatic researchers. These are well recorded in the Society's important research tool, its *Annual Report*. There are United States and colonial coins, English and Canadian coins, tokens and medals, material from Latin America, Greek, Roman, medieval specimens, and contemporary material.

The versatility and interest of the Norwebs in their collecting habits are reflected in the scope of objects—from an Indian Peace medal issued in Canada to a set of portcullis coinage struck in England under Elizabeth I for use in India. Or an aureus of Allectus, a gold stater of Bellovaci, Churchill medals, and a 40-real issue of Uruguay struck in 1854.

The Norwebs helped shape the direction and destiny of the American Numismatic Society for many years as councillors. They knew this institution was the right depository for their numismatic gifts because they knew of its world reputation as a research center for scholars and collectors and its role in furthering numismatic education.

--Margo Russell
May 1, 1987

CHAPTER ONE

Liberty E. Holden

The Holden Family: Roots in England

Liberty Emery Holden, father of Albert Fairchild Holden and grandfather of Emery May Holden Norweb, was the bearer of a proud and long-established name. He was born on a small farm in Raymond, Maine, which at the time of his birth in 1833 was still part of the northern New England frontier. Later, as a member of the Mayflower Society and the Sons of the American Revolution, Liberty Holden took great pleasure in tracing the growth of the Holden family in America from its earliest days in the mid 17th century, eventually commissioning a two-volume genealogical register of all Holdens who could trace their ancestry back to the original settlers in the New World.

The Holdens were participants and observers in the unfolding of American history. The parts they played were small at first, but they were played well and with a constancy that did not seem to vary from one generation to the next. If Liberty Holden's star seemed to shine the brightest in the family's constellation, it may have drawn something of its light from those who had gone before him. In the persons of Richard and Justinian Holden, the first of the name to settle in the new world, and of John Holden, Lieutenant in the Second Middlesex Regiment of militia during the Revolutionary War, we can find earlier examples of the same spirit of determination to succeed despite risks, the same respect for education, and the same knack for making a name for themselves by being in the right place at the right time, that became Liberty's hallmarks. As the present narrative is a saga focusing on several generations of achievers, it is relevant to examine the historical background.

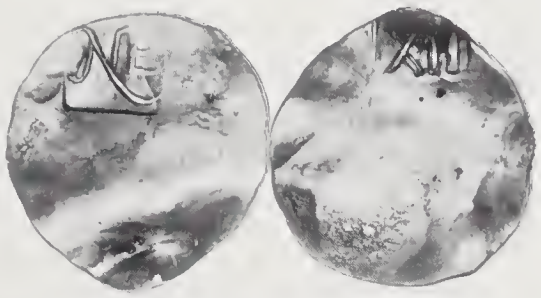
Before the Norman Conquest of Saxon England in 1066 the Haldanes, as their name was spelled in *Domesday Book*, were small landowners in Suffolk, farmers who worked their lands and escaped the confiscations that fell heavily on the Saxon aristocracy following the Conquest. The Suffolk Holdens prospered in a quiet way, escaping the notice of history writ large, but not that of their neighbors and friends in the parish of Lindsey, the seedbed of the Massachusetts Puritans.

Adam Winthrop recorded in his diary for 1592/93 that he had employed Adam Holding (the surname was variously spelled Holding, Houlding, and Holden at this time) with his cart and plough for that season's harvest. A later entry, dated January 6, 1603/4 (the "fiscal" year began on September 29, the Feast of St. Michael, called Michaelmas; Winthrop used this method of reckoning dates in his diary) records that Adam Holding had left his employ that year. Adam Winthrop was the father of John, the first governor of Massachusetts Bay Colony, who was elected to that position in 1629 before leaving England. Adam Holding was the uncle of Justinian and Richard Holden, passengers on the *Francis*, which sailed for Boston on April 10, 1634, who were the forebears of the Holdens of numismatic fame we shall meet later in this book. It is not inconceivable that John Winthrop's example inspired Justinian and Richard to seek their own fortunes in the new world of America, as well as to escape religious intolerance from the established Church of England.

Suffolk was the home of the religious dissenters we now call Puritans. Winthrop was one of the elders of the movement. That Richard and Justinian Holden were of the same sect as the Winthrops is strongly suggested by a later family tradition dating to 1814. In that year Abiel Holden of Massachusetts compiled his *Copies of Records in the Possession of Abiel Holden of Reading*, which drew upon memories of family members then alive and records of the early years of the Holden settlement in America. According to Abiel's account, independently confirmed in 1848 by his brother Luther, both Richard and Justinian suffered arrest and the threat of imprisonment for attending a public meeting of the dissenters. Family lore avers that they were saved from imprisonment by the timely intervention of an uncle named James Holden, described as one of the "Lords of England," with an annual income of 25,000 pounds sterling, who agreed to go surety for their future good behavior on their promise never again to attend a Puritan service. Unwilling to forego their heavenly reward for earthly peace, the narrative concludes with Richard and Justinian sailing for Boston in search of a Puritan heaven on earth.

It is a nice story, suggesting both family wealth and social position in the figure of the uncle, and personal strength of character and religious belief in the figures of the incorruptible brothers. It is more likely an elaboration of fact than a relation of actual events, however. Pared down to its essentials we can be fairly certain that the story accurately records Richard's and Justini-

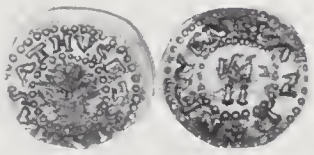
New England Silver Coinage



Undated (1652) New England (NE) Silver Shilling

1652 Willow Tree Shilling

1652 Willow Tree Shilling



1662 Oak Tree Twopence

1658 Oak Tree Threepence

1652 Oak Tree Sixpence

1652 Oak Tree Shilling

1652 Pine Tree Shilling, Large Planchet

1652 Pine Tree Sixpence

1652 Pine Tree Shilling, Small Planchet

1652 Pine Tree Threepence

THE FIRST COINS struck in what is now the United States were the silver NE pieces of 1652. Produced in Massachusetts, the coins were made in response to a severe shortage of circulating currency. Following the simple NE coinage, which was made in the denominations of threepence, sixpence, and shilling, the so-called Willow Tree coinage appeared. Bearing the date 1652 (the date that was continued on all subsequent Massachusetts silver coins, with the exception of the 1662-dated Oak Tree twopence), the piece depicted on the obverse a tree made of swirling lines. All known Willow Tree examples are multiply struck, with incomplete or overlapping letters, the two pieces shown at the upper right of this page being typical. Willow Tree coins were made in the denominations of threepence, sixpence, and shilling.

Then followed the Oak Tree coinage, actually made from 1660 to 1667, but, with the exception of the 1662-date twopence, all were dated 1652. Denominations consisted of twopence, threepence, sixpence, and the shilling. The final coinage in this series was of the Pine Tree style, made in threepence, sixpence, and shilling denominations. These were produced circa 1667-1682. Shillings were made in two major styles, the large planchet format, produced from 1667 to 1674, and the small planchet format made from 1675 to 1682.

The Pine Tree pieces in particular have a permanent place in American folklore. It was said that a bride's dowry was sometimes given in her weight in Pine Tree coinage; Nathaniel Hawthorne penned a tale in this regard. A Pine Tree shilling, if bent twice, was said to be ideal for warding off witches, which were said to be prevalent in Salem (Massachusetts) and surrounding communities during the time these pieces circulated.

an's status as dissenters from the Church of England; that they may well have suffered what later generations called "persecution" at the hands of local Suffolk authorities charged with their oversight; and that their "deliverance" may well have come at the hands of someone influential enough to warrant surety for their future good behavior. Three members of the extended Holden family in Suffolk, all pastors of the dissenting faith, are known to have suffered similar inconvenience for their beliefs (another Holden, however, found no trouble remaining in the Church of England and prospering under its mantle). The wealthy deliverer, who in the story is taken into the Holden family, is either an apocryphal nicety added later by a successful generation searching for silver-plated roots, or, more temptingly, may be a poorly remembered example of patronage by a Winthrop, whose family had earlier employed Adam Holden, the brothers' uncle.

The real religious motive for emigration to a harsh and unknown new world should not be discounted, however, as it impelled others to make the long and dangerous voyage to Massachusetts from the Suffolk port of Ipswich. Whether they came to seek their material fortunes or to foster their spiritual ones, or for both motives, by sailing on the *Francis* Richard and Justinian Holden caught one of history's spring tides, one which would carry them and their descendants toward success in the New World.

The Holden Family: Arrival in America

The *Francis* sailed in April 1634, arriving at Boston the following July. Her arrival was noted by Governor John Winthrop in his *History of New England*. She had sailed in convoy with some 15 other vessels from various British ports, all save one arriving safely with little loss of goods. One ship was an exception: the *Elizabeth Dorcas* struck a rock during her passage. Due to this accident, and her poor preparation for a long crossing, 60 souls were lost before reaching Boston. Justinian and Richard Holden, passengers on the *Francis*, are noted as first settling in Watertown after their arrival in the colony of Massachusetts Bay, and there they remained, living on Belmont Street, east of Grove Street, until about 1650, when they separated, each to stake his own fortune. Justinian, the less venturesome of the brothers, stayed near Watertown at first, eventually buying a large farm along Fresh Pond in Cambridge.

Richard was more daring than his brother Justinian, more willing to leave the relative safety of Watertown and brave the dangers of the further Massachusetts frontier, and together with his wife, Martha Fosdick of Charlestown, was among the original settlers of the town of Groton in the summer of 1661. Apparently named after the Suffolk manor held by the Winthrops, the new settlement prospered. Richard's fortunes prospered also, and on his death in 1696 he owned 149 acres of land in different parts of the township, including a 15-acre "house lot" on which stood his second house, large enough to be used as the town's militia garrison in 1711 and later to serve as an inn.

As a landowner Richard trained with the local militia commanded by Captain James Parker of Groton, but at age 55, with his captain's approval, he petitioned for release from service. The petition's wording, with its archaic spelling, has been preserved:

To the Hon'red
The County Cort in Cambridge
Octob 3 1665.

"The Humble request of Richard Holden of Groton Whereas the Providence of the alwise God hath ordered that sickness and weaknesse in body hath followed mee & increased upon mee this twenty yeare, & now a lingering consumption is more than formerly prevailing upon mee, disenabling mee from service, especially to beare armes, & being never like to be capable of doo any good in a military way, my weaknesse and distemper being come to such a height, & God knows how it is likely to bee with mee, but it is little likely that the body shld rise agen which hath been soe long failing; I wld yrfore entreat that yor worshipps would consider mee, and release mee fro training: Loth I have been, to trouble your worshipps this 7 years, though I had case enough, but now I am forced to ly at your feet & wait your pleasure, but not to trouble your worshipps any further; confiding in your benignitye

I commend my selfe
to your worshipps & Rest

Groton Sept ult. 1665 Richard Holden

I doe conceive what is above expressed by Richard Holden is reall.
witness my hand
James Parker

The outcome of his petition is not preserved, but it can be assumed that as it bore his officer's endorsement it was most likely approved. Even so, however, release from training did not mean release from service in time of need: the township was too small to allow any of its members or their servants a permanent exemption, and besides, their own safety might require even the most infirm to hoist an arquebus into firing position. For Groton, and for Holden, King Philip's War (1675-1676) tested the township's will to survive.

The Holdens in King Philip's War

The great Indian tribe of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, the Wampanoags, had welcomed the *Mayflower* Pilgrims and had happily ceded *use* of their lands to them. In their turn, the Pilgrims had happily accepted *ownership* of these lands. Neither party to the treaty really understood what the other meant, and so when the Wampanoags continued hunting across lands they felt were theirs, even if someone else was living there, and the Pilgrims complained the Indians were trespassing and breaking boundaries, both were right, according to their own interpretation. Eventually both would come to enforce their own understandings of what had been granted by the original treaty.

In 1662 Metacomet, called King Philip by the English settlers, became sachem of the Wampanoags, and while he pledged he would honor the treaty his father had signed earlier, secretly be-

gan planning to reassert the tribe's independence from the influence of the English colonists. Suspicions of his designs led to an indictment, fine, and partial disarmament of the tribe in 1671. Four years later an Indian informer revealed plans for a rising and was murdered for his pains. The colonists apprehended his killers, and after "trying" them according to English law, executed them. This breach of Indian control over Indian affairs inflamed those among the Wampanoags inclined toward war with the settlers. While Philip may have tried to soothe tempers, the colonists gave his name to what became known as King Philip's War.

Even before hostilities began, Groton's elders knew war was likely, and they prepared accordingly. Five of the township's larger houses were fortified with palisades and were designated as garrisons, or places of refuge in case of attack. Four of the garrisons were close together, while the fifth was about half a mile from the others. The first attack came on March 2, 1676, when a small group of Indians looted eight or nine houses, drove off some cattle, and caught and killed Timothy Cooper, a resident of the town. A week later four townsmen were surprised at work by another band and in the short fight that followed another Groton villager was killed, a second captured, the other two making good their escape to the nearest garrison.

The main attack came on March 13. A large war party, later said by the survivors to number over 400 warriors, descended on Groton and began going house to house looking for loot and victims. According to the account preserved by Abiel Holden, Richard and his wife Martha saw the approaching attackers and rushed into their house with their children. Richard armed himself and his eldest son, and they took positions facing the main door where they expected the Indians to break in. Martha and the younger children moved to the back of the house, away from the front door. Within minutes the attackers had surrounded the building and began their assault on the front door, which did not withstand the battering long. Richard had shuttered the windows and extinguished all the candles in the house, and it was quite dark inside. When the Indians finally broke down the door, Richard and his son could not see their targets well enough to justify firing their single-shot firelocks. As they had planned, when the Indians swarmed through the front door Martha led her charges out the back and began running for the nearest garrison. Richard and his son, unable to see to shoot, backed away from the front of the house and escaped, joining Martha and the children, possibly behind Captain Parker's better-manned palisades. The other villagers had barely enough time to escape into the five fortified houses, where they also shut themselves up, waiting for the onslaught. The now empty town was abandoned to the Indians.

Huddled together for safety the settlers watched through their firing slits as the Indians methodically set about burning the abandoned homes and meeting house. Some 40 buildings were torched as they watched. The Indians then turned on the little garrisons, first assaulting the post commanded by Jonathan Nutting. The defenders could not hold off so large an attack and Nutting's palisades were quickly breached, the Indians rushing in to slaughter the garrison. As the attackers burst in, one group of defenders led the women and children from the back of the garrison, successfully guiding them to Captain Parker's fortified house. The remaining defenders either died where they fought or made their escape during the confusion that began when the Indians turned from killing to looting.

After the fall of Nutting's garrison the attackers turned on Captain Parker's position. By now, however, the Indians were already counting the battle a victory. Faced with a more professional defense, the Indians broke off the engagement and withdrew from Groton, leaving the villagers in possession of the smoldering ruins that had once been their homes, Richard Holden's among them. After burying their dead and treating the wounded, the survivors left Groton, returning to the towns they had lived in before moving there. Richard Holden went back to Watertown, later to Cambridge, living for a time with his brother Justinian. Undaunted, he returned to Groton around 1684, rebuilt his house larger than before, and on his death in 1696, at the age of 88, was known as one of the more prosperous of the original inhabitants. He left behind him 11 children; seven sons and four daughters.

Justinian Holden was younger than his brother Richard and much more sedentary in his ways, settling in Watertown in 1634. His only move was to Cambridge, a few miles away, where he purchased a 294-acre farm and homestead in 1653 for 210 pounds sterling. He was a farmer first, but during the winter months he plied his trade as a carpenter. He rapidly prospered. In Watertown he was twice appointed constable, responsible for collecting taxes. In Cambridge he was twice named as town surveyor. By 1662 he had become important enough to be placed ". . .in ye foremost seats. . ." in Cambridge's meeting house. Like his brother before him, Justinian petitioned for release from militia training, writing the county court that he was ". . .disabled by the Providence of God from attending the Countrey service in military exercises by reason of great deaftness, & Giddiness in his head besides other infirmityes of old age, he being now about 70 years of age. . ."

Justinian died in 1691, ten years after his petition was approved, at the age of 80. He left behind seven children by his second wife, whom he married when he was over 60; four sons and three daughters.

An inventory of his estate listed his worth at over 1,200 pounds sterling, a very large sum for the time. This figure included farms and dwelling houses valued at more than 1,000 pounds, armor worth 1 pound 16 shillings, and books appraised at 15 shillings. The item for books is perplexing, as it is believed that Justinian may have been illiterate. The books may have been for his children's education. The New England Holdens encouraged their children whenever they showed interest in learning. It was this spirit that ultimately led to Liberty Holden's later success. Liberty's acknowledgment of the debt he owed to his forebears, Richard and Justinian among them, led in turn to his interest in New England history, one he passed on to his son Albert and his granddaughter Emery May.

The Holdens in the Revolutionary War

The next Holden to enter our story, Liberty's great-grandfather John, was a fourth generation Holden, whose great-grandfather was Richard Holden of Groton. Born in 1738, John was one of seven children. He grew up with stories of the early frontier days and the hardships faced by his forebears. By the middle of the 18th century, when John came of age, Richard and Justinian Holden's life stories had already become embroidered with some of the fanciful stories later recorded as facts by Abiel Holden.

Maryland Silver Coinage

SILVER COINS were struck in England for the colony of Maryland circa 1658, under the auspices of Cecil Calvert. Denominations made included the fourpence (or groat), sixpence, and shilling. Each one was denominated on the reverse by an inscription in Roman numerals. Shown on this page is an extremely rare variation of the sixpence, with the reverse inscription spelled MVLTILICAMINI instead of the correct MULTIPLICAMINI, intended to be part of the legend CRESCITE ET MULTIPLICAMINI, which translates to "increase and multiply." The obverse of each issue bears the portrait of Cecil Calvert, the Lord Proprietor of the colony.

In addition to the three silver denominations, copper pennies inscribed DENARIUM were made at a later date. Although all Maryland coinage is believed to have been struck in England, there may have been a mint in Maryland as well. This possibility has intrigued numismatists for generations, but no documentary evidence of a native mint has ever surfaced.

To John, and more so to later generations of Holdens, Richard and Justinian became exemplars, models of perseverance whose emigration to the New World proclaimed their love of freedom and renunciation of the tyranny of the Old World. Growing up in the 1740s and 1750s, a time of outspoken debate over the English crown's authority to regulate colonial American commerce and politics, John took to heart the stories he heard from his father and older relatives. When the time came for the colonies to declare their independence from Great Britain, John had the examples of his forebears to influence how he should act.

John was born and raised in Stoneham, Massachusetts, where he plied the trade of a tailor. He married at the age of 22, in 1760. His wife Mary lived to be more than 100 years old. She bore him two sons, John and Daniel, who followed their father's trade. Mary was Liberty's great-grandmother, and he knew her when he was a youngster, listening to the stories she told of her husband's service in the cause of American freedom. Little is known of John's life before history overtook it and cast him into its light.

John Holden must have been an American patriot before he came to history's notice, for when Paul Revere raised the alarm on April 19, 1775, telling the patriots of Lexington and surrounding towns that British grenadiers under Lieutenant Colonel Francis Smith were on their way to trample the infant cause, John Holden responded as a member of the company of minutemen commanded by Captain Samuel Sprague. As one of over 4,000 others in the fields and behind the hedges that day, he saw his first action against British regulars and gave a good account of himself. He remained in Captain Sprague's company of militia for the rest of April and into May, and rejoiced along with his commander on hearing the news of the fall of Fort Ticonderoga on May 10. He may have been in the lines before Boston while still a volunteer militiaman.

John officially enlisted in the Continental Army as a six month man on May 20, 1775, the same day Rhode Island, Connecticut, and New Hampshire voted to send troops to the siege of Boston. His regiment was the Twenty Sixth, commanded by Colonel Loammi Baldwin, encamped at Chelsea as part of the northern ring around Boston. Still in the lines when his term of enlistment expired on December 30, 1775, John extended his tour for another year, moving from Captain Sprague's company, which had earlier enlisted as a body, to one commanded by Captain Richard Dodge of the Twenty Sixth.

John marched with his regiment all the following year, revelling in the triumph before Boston and fleeing before the defeat on Long Island. Forced from Manhattan and later White Plains, John Holden retreated with the army through New Jersey to Pennsylvania. His service records are not complete, but it is almost certain that he saw action with General Washington at the surprise attack on Trenton, December 26, 1776, for John was one of those who heard Washington's call and agreed to "tarry six weeks" beyond their term of enlistment, due to expire on December 31.

His subsequent military career is recorded only as ranks and regiment numbers. John was commissioned a first lieutenant in Captain Josiah Green's company of the Second Middlesex Regiment in April 1779. He later served as first lieutenant in Captain William Green's company of the Fourth Middlesex Regiment. Between July and November 1780 he was part of the American army bottled up in Rhode Island by an English fleet that had caught the French Admiral le Comte de Rochambeau in Newport harbor and blockaded them there. On December 3, 1781, six years after he first enlisted as a private, First Lieutenant John Holden and his company were dismissed from the Continental Army in a ceremony at West Point. He drew no pension during his lifetime, and his widow Mary did not apply to the government for one until December 1837, fifty-six years after her husband's retirement from service. The Holdens were not ones to ask for assistance from anyone, even when it was due them.

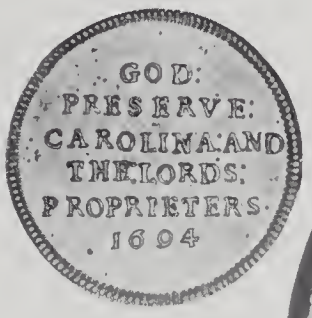
Liberty Holden, who was to become the first numismatist in our chronicle, owed his unusual Christian name to his great-grandfather John's love of the patriots' cause. John's fifth son was born on March 14, 1775. To honor his newborn and make public his politics, John decided to name the boy Liberty. His wife was opposed to the idea, not because of any misgivings about its suitability as a given name, but more realistically because she felt such an act of public defiance might cause the family trouble. Her husband acquiesced, reluctantly, and named the boy Peter. After his return from the army in 1781, however, John habitually called his son "Liberty Peter." For his part, Peter named one of his son's Liberty, and the name entered the list of approved Holden names. Peter was our Liberty Holden's grandfather.

The pioneering spirit that first brought the Holdens to America in 1634 lived on in their descendants a century and a half later. Liberty Holden's grandfather left the family settlement in Massachusetts and with his wife Hannah journeyed on horseback into the Maine wilderness to the newly founded hamlet of Sweden. They lived under canvas for six weeks while Peter and his son built their first house. Peter was one of the signers to the petition for the legal separation of Sweden from Massachusetts presented to the General Court in 1819. Peter's son Liberty, our Liberty's father, was born in Sweden, Maine in 1808. By trade a farmer, timber merchant, and later a cooper, he never enjoyed the financial success that seems to have characterized most Holden undertakings. With his wife Sally, however, who was a descendant through her mother from John and Priscilla Alden, he was a firm believer in the encouragement of his children's education, and in this he showed true Holden character. After much traveling about the state in search of fresh timber stands for his business, he finally settled on a farm in Raymond, Maine, a small town on the north side of Sebago Lake equidistant from Portland and Lewiston. There, on June 20, 1833, Sally gave birth to the couple's first son, whom they named Liberty Emery Holden.

Liberty Holden's Early Life

Liberty was a serious child, one who took to heart the lessons he learned from his books and the stories of his ancestors he heard from his family. He was an avid reader, soon exhausting his father's and mother's library. He moved on to the local church's and district school's libraries, which he also quickly ran through. One of the most influential books on his later development was Benjamin Franklin's *Poor Richard's Almanack*. Much later in life, Liberty underwrote the production of a specially printed limited edition of Franklin's *Autobiography*. In the introduction to the edition, published for the Rowfant Club in 1898, Liberty acknowledged the debt he owed to Franklin in

Elephant Tokens Related to America



1694-DATED ELEPHANT TOKENS were made with inscriptions relating to America, as illustrated here. The first variety bears the reverse inscription GOD: PRESERVE: CAROLINA: AND THE: LORDS: PROPRIETERS. 1694, with the last word misspelled. The second variety is inscribed: GOD: PRESERVE: NEW: ENGLAND: 1694: . The obverse of each bears an elephant and is related to an earlier series bearing a shield on the reverse with the inscription GOD PRESERVE LONDON surrounding. [A later variety was made of the Carolina piece, in which the spelling was corrected by punching an O over the erroneous E, thus creating the correct PROPRIETORS.]

these words: "In the days of my youth, when I was forming, thy spirit was over me and thy words of wisdom were with me. Thou didst say the best that man ever said on thrift, economy, integrity, and industry." The "biblical" ring to the words he chose can only have been deliberate and served to underscore even more the debt he felt he owed to Franklin, the father of 19th-century American *laissez faire* capitalism.

Before all else Liberty was, and remained all his life, an ardent patriot. The stories he heard from his great-grandmother, about her husband's service during the Revolution, set Liberty's love for his country and its ideals. His own academic and business success confirmed his belief in the promise of America as a land where the values extolled by Franklin: thrift, industry, economy, and integrity, if faithfully practiced, would inevitably lead to success in any undertaking. His life story is a classic example of mid 19th-century business success, and its broad outlines could serve as the structure for any similar biography. It is, in effect, a typical Horatio Alger story of the young farm boy heeding the call and challenge of success, as we shall see, and making good as a result.

His studious nature and love of learning marked Liberty for a career as a teacher. His parents encouraged his schooling beyond what would have been usual for a farm boy. After completing the local district school's curriculum, Liberty was sent to a preparatory school 75 miles away from home, in Bethel, Maine. By the age of 16 he had qualified as a teacher in the local public schools; two years later he was teaching in "select schools" near Raymond. By the age of 20 Liberty had relocated southward and had become a teacher in several district schools in Massachusetts. He put off entering college until he was 21, preferring to wait until he had saved enough money from his teaching salary to pay for college himself. In 1855 he entered Waterville College (now Colby College), in Maine, where he began his study of English literature and rhetoric.

Westward to Ohio

Less than two years later, midway through the 1856 academic year, Liberty heard the call of the West. In the 1850s, all land west of the Pennsylvania border was called the West. He said, in later years, that he left Waterville College and Maine because he felt the opportunities for a young man just starting out in life were greater in the West than in the East. After traveling to Philadelphia, where he sought his uncle Ezra's advice about the relocation, he returned to his father's house, sent in an application for admission to the new University of Michigan, and after receiving his acceptance into that institution, left Maine and his family.

Between the ages of 22 and 24, from 1856 to 1858, Liberty was a student at the University of Michigan. In his second year there he taught English at a Union school in Ann Arbor, to earn the money he needed for his own schooling. After graduating in 1858, Liberty successfully applied for the position of Professor of Rhetoric and English Literature at Kalamazoo College in Michigan. Concurrently with his teaching duties he continued his own studies, receiving his master's degree from the University of Michigan in 1861. The academic life appealed to Liberty's studious nature, and he seems never to have broken completely the academic mold in which he cast himself.

One of the students in Liberty's college English class was Delia Elizabeth Bulkley, a pretty Ohio girl with a sensible head on her shoulders. Her father was professor of mathematics at Williams College. Taken by her appearance and impressed with her intelligence, Liberty proposed to his student, and they were married on August 14, 1860. The marriage marked another important turning point in Liberty's life, for his bride brought with her not only brains and looks, but also a dowry large enough to allow the couple some freedom from want, and substantial connections in northern Ohio society. Over the years the couple was to have nine children, the last two being fraternal twins. Large families were not unusual for the time, and were the norm in the Holden family: Liberty was one of 11 children.

The year after he received his bachelor's degree Liberty seems to have decided that, while he loved it and it suit him nicely, the life of a college professor was not one that lead to great financial success. Accordingly, at the same time he was studying for his master's degree and teaching college, Liberty began reading the law, intending to open his own practice later.

The following year the couple moved from Kalamazoo to the small Ohio town of Tiffin, located about midway between Toledo and Cleveland, where Liberty took the job of superintendent of schools. They remained there for little more than a year, Liberty continuing to study law in the evenings, when they jointly decided to move to Cleveland, a city in the early stages of an expansion that would see its size double over the next decade. It is not known whose idea this move was originally, but there is good circumstantial evidence that Delia and her brother Henry, who had been in the same class in college with his sister and so was also Liberty's pupil, were the champions of the move, for 10 years later Liberty and Henry were partners in the ownership of substantial real estate in East Cleveland.

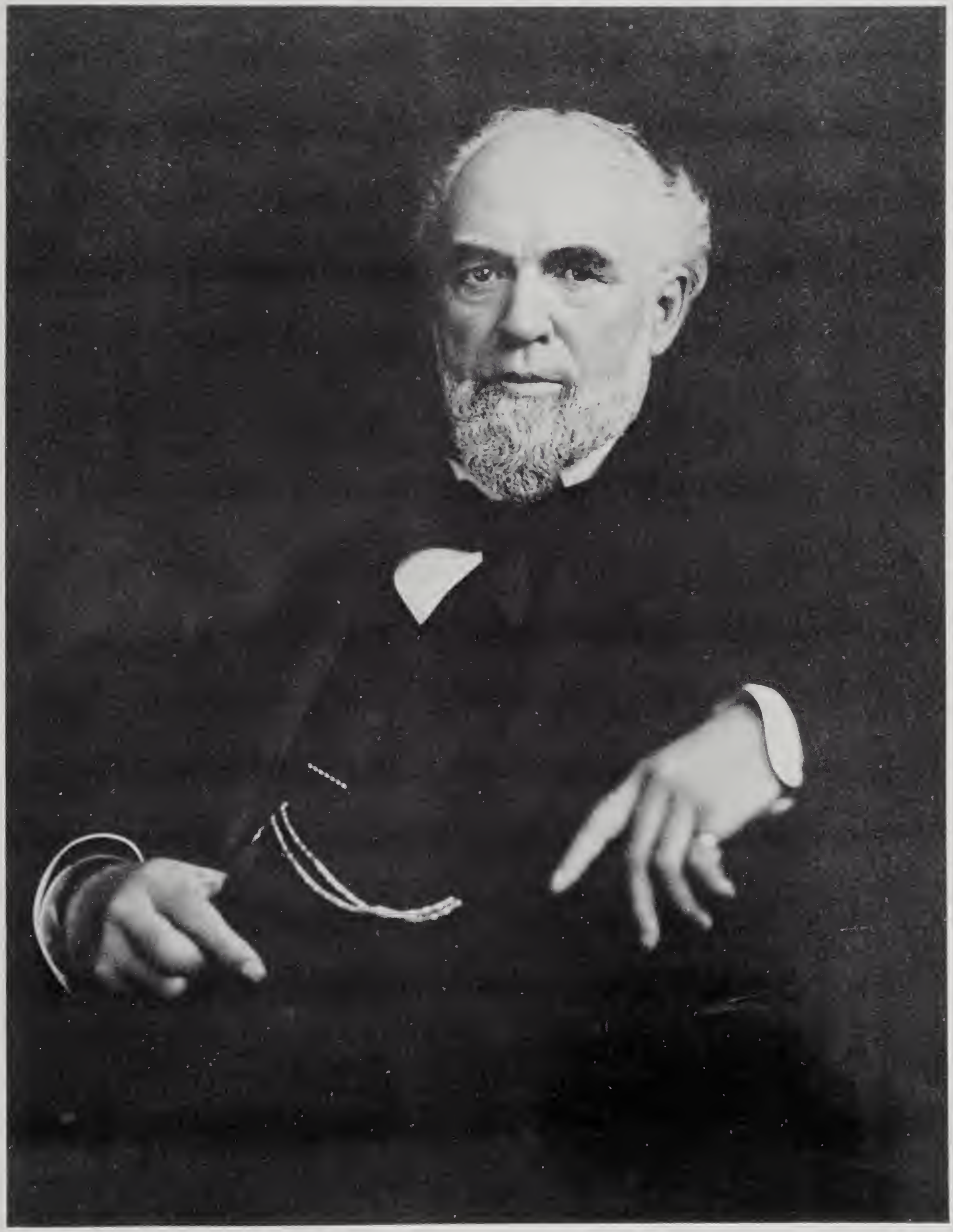
Cleveland and Success

Leaving Tiffin meant more than just closing one home and opening another elsewhere. For Liberty, it signalled the end of the career path he had set for himself when a boy on his father's farm in Raymond, Maine. He never again taught school. In the short two years after his marriage, Liberty Holden had made several serious career decisions which put him on a path he had not expected for himself, but one which would, ultimately, lead him to riches and fame.

After moving to Cleveland, Ohio in 1862 Liberty was accepted as a law clerk to Judge Jesse P. Bishop, a local magistrate known for his liberal attitudes, who took as another of his law clerks the first black member of the Cleveland bar. In 1863, four years after starting his study of the law, Liberty was admitted to the bar. Although he never actually practiced, his legal training came in handy later.

By 1862, of course, the Civil War was raging, growing in intensity from the battles of Shiloh in April to Antietam in September, but the war did not affect Liberty and his wife directly. Later, the war's insatiable appetite for coal, iron, and steel to forge its tools would point a new direction for Liberty. It was the growth of Cleveland's population during the war years that proved the first opportunity for Liberty's future prosperity.

Little is known of his activities in the period 1862-1872. In the former year he moved to East Cleveland, the area of the city



Photographic portrait of Liberty E. Holden taken in the early 1900s. The framed original is in the Norweb family archives. (Photograph courtesy of the *Plain Dealer*)

that is now East 55th Street and Euclid Avenue. Shortly after the move, in partnership with his brother-in-law Henry, Liberty began buying real estate and developing inexpensive housing for emigrants arriving in Cleveland, as well as more substantial housing for the richer members of Cleveland society. In the 10 years after he arrived in the city Liberty amassed a small fortune that made him essentially independent of the need to work for his living in the future. Undoubtedly, his legal training and membership in the Cleveland bar were of assistance in his real estate transactions at this time. In 1872, when documentation about Liberty's life is once again available, we find him well established on the road to financial success.

By 1872 the Village of East Cleveland had grown unevenly, the part that abutted the City of Cleveland, along Euclid Avenue south of Superior Street, being the most developed. It was here that Liberty had concentrated his real estate interests. When the City of Cleveland proposed annexation of this portion of the Village of East Cleveland, Liberty Holden was among the strongest supporters of the resolution. Annexation was approved by the voters of East Cleveland on October 24, 1872. The next year Liberty joined with William Halsey Doan, H.C. Ford, and Otis Boise and bought the Wright House, Cleveland's oldest hostelry, for $35,000. The Wright House was moved from its location at Euclid and Fairmount to a new site on Cedar Avenue. Much to local Clevelanders' regret, however, the new owners closed the hotel's saloon, which had had the distinction of being Cleveland's longest open bar. Three years after moving the Wright House, Liberty and his partners built the Fairmount Hotel on its old site. The new structure was a brick multistory building with fancy stone trim that overlooked the pleasant grove soon to become Wade Park. The hotel quickly became popular with Cleveland society, and many prominent families maintained *pieds a terre* there. In 1898 he sold the Fairmount to the Hollenden Hotel Company, which he also owned. By 1932 the property's value had grown to $400,000.

Successful as it was, the Fairmount was no match for Liberty's next hotel project. Recognizing the need for high-grade, apartment-style housing in the downtown area, Holden purchased the Philo Chamberlain property that fronted on Superior, Bond, and Vincent streets. Over the next few years, Clevelanders were treated to the sight of the construction of one of the grandest hotels west of the Ohio River. The new edifice, named The Hollenden, was officially opened on June 7, 1885. The new hotel was a pioneer of its type and took its place among the ranks of the best in the nation. In this project, as in Liberty's earlier Fairmount Hotel, Liberty's in-laws played a significant part: the corporation formed to erect the building included Charles H. Bulkley, another of Liberty's brothers-in-law, on its board.

William Ganson Rose, author of *Cleveland, The Making of a City*, described the Hollenden best:

> Electric lights, one hundred private baths, and fireproof construction added to the Hollenden's fame. Its high, paneled walls, massive redwood and mahogany fittings, exclusively designed furniture, and "crystal" dining room marked it as sumptuous. George F. Hammond, architect, designed much of the interior. Holden consented reluctantly to provide a dining room. Politicians claimed it and made it famous as a meeting place. "Hanna hash," Mark Hanna's favorite dish, originated here. The Superior Avenue hostelry, which took its name from an early English form of the name "Holden," was "a small talk center for precinct workers," the *Plain Dealer* reported. In the gay nineties, it was the scene of colorful balls and festivities. Its bar was the longest in town. George Meyer, who had a shop in the Hollenden, was the best barber in the United States, according to Elbert Hubbard. Five presidents—McKinley, Theodore Roosevelt, Taft, Wilson, and Harding—heads of foreign governments, celebrities of stage and lecture platform, political enthusiasts, industrial giants, and champions in sports were its house guests.

Liberty and his sons Liberty Dean and Albert maintained rooms in the Hollenden. Liberty was accustomed to staying overnight at the hotel when in the city on business, saving him the trouble of traveling by carriage out to the suburb of Bratenahl, where he maintained an estate on the lake. His bedroom in the Hollenden was furnished in the dark, heavy style of furniture favored by many in the 1890s. The hotel was owned by the Hollenden Corporation, and daily management was in Dean Holden's hands. Dean loved his father's hotel and apparently was a successful manager. In the spring of 1897, when Liberty Holden became convinced that McKinley's election signalled economic recession, Dean argued against his father's decision to cut 25% from the hotel's operating budget, saying that while the cut would reduce expenses in the short term, its long-term effect would be to undercut the very quality that had made the Hollenden famous throughout the Midwest. As a measure of Dean's managerial skill, when the hotel was sold to new owners in 1925, the sellers received $5 million. Later, the old Hollenden building was completely rebuilt, losing all of its original charm and fittings. The name was preserved, however, and a new hotel stands on the original site and serves Cleveland's business community.

When Liberty and his family first moved to East Cleveland they purchased a 43-acre farmstead in the section of the village named Doan's Corners, located on what is today Euclid Avenue opposite Wade Park. This was a working farm, supplying food and vegetables for the dining room of the Fairmount Hotel. As it was near downtown Cleveland, was connected to the city's hub by traction car surface railways, and was one of the largest open tracts of land owned by a single person, the Doan's Corners property was the prime site under consideration when a home was sought for what later became Case Western Reserve University.

Case Western Reserve University (so named in 1967) was the outgrowth of a merger of the Case School of Applied Science and Adelbert College of Western Reserve University. Case School had been founded in 1881 by the Case family and was first located in their residence on Rockwell Street. Headed by Dr. John N. Stockwell, a self-educated star gazer who later was called "the dean of American astronomers," the school's faculty at the outset included six teachers. Enrollment in 1881 was 16 students. Instruction was in the applied sciences rather than the liberal arts. Cleveland still lacked a local university.

In 1880 Dr. Hiram C. Haydn, a trustee of Western Reserve College in Hudson, Ohio, convinced his fellow trustees that moving the college to Cleveland would be in the best interests of the institution. Dr. Haydn also persuaded Amasa Stone, a

wealthy Clevelander, to make the move practical by a substantial endowment. Stone agreed to donate $500,000 to underwrite the new institution, with these terms attached to the gift: the citizens of Cleveland had to find a suitable site for the new university; the name of the foundation had to be changed to Adelbert College of Western Reserve University, to honor his son Adelbert's memory; and the members of the board of directors of the university had to be approved by Stone before they could be seated. As it turned out, these terms did not prove a hardship.

A committee of four was formed to locate a suitable site for the new university, one of whose members was Charles H. Bulkley, Liberty's brother-in-law and his partner in the corporation they had formed that would complete, three years later, the Hollenden Hotel. It is not surprising that the site selected was Liberty's farmstead at Doan's Corners. The new university was dedicated on October 26, 1882, with ex-President Rutherford B. Hayes and D.C. Gilman, president of Johns Hopkins College, delivering the principal addresses. The new board of directors, chosen by Amasa Stone, numbered among its members John Hay, lately assistant secretary of state (later secretary of state under McKinley and Roosevelt); President James A. Garfield; and Liberty E. Holden. Two new buildings were constructed on the eastern part of Liberty's homestead, beside the Case School of Applied Science's campus. Thirty-one years later, in 1913, Liberty endowed the Albert F. Holden Foundation for medical research at Western Reserve.

Liberty and the Cleveland Museum of Art

As his fortune grew so did Liberty's gifts and benefactions to civic associations and other institutions in his adopted home town. In addition, his position in society involved him in numerous voluntary undertakings. In 1890 he was one of the organizers of and main speakers at the dedication of the Garfield Mausoleum completed that year. In 1894 he was again asked to address the public, who were gathered for the dedication of the Soldiers and Sailors Monument, erected to the memory of Admiral Perry's men who fell at the Battle of Lake Erie. Liberty took these, and similar forums, as opportunities to educate the public in the lessons of proper civic responsibility, patriotism, and his own brand of capitalism. Always the educator by training and habit, if no longer by profession, Liberty believed that his wealth and position required him to educate the masses to strive beyond their simple needs for shelter, food, clothing, and so on. A social Darwinist of the classic school, he escaped some of the smug disdain for those less fortunate than himself that characterized other subscribers to that philosophy.

The Cleveland Museum of Art owes its inspiration in large measure, and its foundation in an equal degree, to Liberty Holden and his wife Delia's interest in promoting the advanced education of the working class. Delia was among the original founders of the Cleveland Art School, established in 1882 to provide a work space and learning opportunity for Cleveland's artists, which at the time consisted mostly of young women of the middle and upper-middle class.

The school quickly became popular, as it provided a social outlet as well as a place to learn. Additional programs were set up to attract more of the public to the rewards of art. In 1894 the Cleveland Art Association was formed, whose purpose was to award grants to students in the Cleveland Art School and to sponsor lectures designed "to educate the masses," according to a prospectus. Liberty was among the founders of the association. That same year, following the Panic of 1893, Liberty helped organize the Citizen's Relief Association, which put on an exhibition of paintings, sculpture, and other arts and handicrafts, the proceeds from which were spent on relief work for the victims of the economic depression.

The Exhibition of 1894, a year later, was a huge success and inspired its organizers to prepare for annual exhibitions. The First Annual Exhibition of the Cleveland Art Association was held from January 22 to February 22, 1895. Exhibits included paintings from Liberty's own collection, sculpture, local craftswork, and other artistic items. Adults paid 25 cents admission, while school children paid 15 cents on Saturdays. The dates of the exhibition were specially chosen. There was a gala Napoleon Night, a Lincoln Night, and a Washington Night. During the last, the ladies dressed in Martha Washington costumes and served tea to the guests.

The success of the first Annual Exhibition convinced Cleveland society that an art museum of a permanent nature was needed in the city. By 1905 Liberty Holden had been chosen as chairman of the building committee charged to engage an architect and approve plans for the new museum, all at a time when the competing legal relationships among the three trust bequests set up for the creation and funding of an art museum had not yet been straightened out. Eight years later, however, work had begun on what was to become one of the finest art museums in the country.

Liberty Holden owned a collection of paintings which he purchased *en bloc* in 1884 from James Jackson Jarves. A stipulation in the agreement of purchase allowed Jarves free room and board in Liberty's Fairmount Hotel, later in the Hollenden, and unlimited access to a carriage and driver. Jarves was ill at the time of the sale and apparently no one expected him to live long, so the deal probably did not look too unbalanced to Liberty. Jarves surprised everyone, however, "lingering" on until 1888, staying at Cleveland's best hotel when he was in town and driving about the city behind a fine pair of horses, all at Liberty's expense.

Jarves was a colorful character. His father, Deming, was the creator of the pressed glass known as Sandwich glass, manufactured in his factory located in Sandwich, Massachusetts. In 1840 James Jarves founded and edited the first newspaper published in the Hawaiian islands, *The Polynesian*. In 1851 he moved to Italy, settling in Florence, where he began collecting works of art chosen as representative of their schools and styles. Always at a loss for money, Jarves offered his collection intact to Yale University in 1871, and sold all but 54 paintings. These remaining 54 he sold to Liberty Holden 13 years later. They subsequently became the nucleus of the fledgling Cleveland Museum of Art's collection of Italian paintings. The Holden Collection was first housed in a gallery in Liberty's mansion in Bratenahl, which he built on the shore of Lake Erie. Years later, his granddaughter, Emery May Holden Norweb, remembered playing in the gallery where the paintings hung, recalling that it was cold there despite the warmth and brightness of the pictures' colors. Liberty exhibited some of his paintings during the First Annual Exhibition of the Cleveland Art Association in 1894.

Delia Holden donated the family art collection to the new

The Holy Family with the Infant Saint John and Saint Margaret by Filippino Lippi of Florence. This painting hangs in the Cleveland Museum of Art. The purchase was made from the Delia Holden Fund and from a fund donated as a memorial to Mrs. Holden by her children: Guerdon Holden, Delia Holden White, Roberta Holden Bole, Emery Holden Greenough, and Gertrude Holden McGinley. Delia Holden was Liberty Emery Holden's fifth child and Albert Holden's sister. (Photograph courtesy of the Cleveland Museum of Art.)

Cleveland Museum of Art in 1916, thus helping to establish the new museum's reputation. In 1917 the museum published an illustrated volume titled *Catalogue of the Collection of Paintings Presented to the Cleveland Museum of Art by Mrs. Liberty E. Holden*. The majority of the paintings were Italian primitives, pre-Renaissance works of varying quality. Several have since been reattributed. One earlier said to have been by Leonardo da Vinci had been particularly prized by Jarves and Holden. William Mathewson Milliken, director of the Museum from 1930 to 1958, once listed the three most important acquisitions in the museum's first 35 years of activity. Among them were Filippino Lippi's *The Holy Family with St. Margaret and St. John*, purchased with money from the Delia Holden Fund; and the *Guelph Treasure*, purchased for $570,000 in 1930 using gift funds donated by Liberty's granddaughter Emery May Holden Norweb, among others. The Cleveland Museum of Art, which numbers among its early benefactors Liberty and Delia Holden, later Emery May and R. Henry Norweb Sr. and their family, was a favorite philanthropy of the Holden family. We shall hear more of the institution later.

West to the Mines

Liberty had started out to be a teacher; then studied law with the intention of practicing in Cleveland; and later ventured into real estate development. He was flexible in his goals. In 1873 he once again changed his focus, with a foresight that was uncanny in its accuracy.

The first steel poured from the revolutionary Bessemer process furnaces was produced in the Newburgh Mill of the Cleveland Rolling Mill Company on September 6, 1868. The new furnaces were capable of producing high-quality steel ingots at a much lower cost, and they promised almost unlimited output capacity. The first pouring was significant enough to have been noticed in the Cleveland press, and it is almost certain that Liberty recognized the importance of the new technology. Liberty is known to have felt that America was on the threshold of an age of steel: the Civil War's demand for more and more steel, for its guns and ironclads, may have impressed this lesson on Liberty's mind.

It appears that he had an amateur's interest in mineralogy at this time, and while he may not have collected specimens, he studied the subject and learned enough to recognize ores and to impress others with his skill. Accordingly, when a consortium of Clevelanders offered Liberty part ownership and the job of manager of its Pittsburgh and Lake Angeline iron ore mines, located in the Lake Superior region, he accepted. From 1873 through the following year he managed the company's mines, learning valuable lessons about the practical aspects of mining on a large scale that would later serve him well. In 1874 he resigned his position and sold his interest in the company, for an estimated four times his cost.

On February 28, 1873 Bret Harte, the famous storyteller of the California gold rush, came to Cleveland on a lecture tour. He delivered a talk titled "The Argonauts of '49" at Case Hall. It is not certain that Liberty attended the lecture, although his interest in things cultural and his involvement in Cleveland's social circle suggest that he did. The lecture was covered by the local press, and notice of it, at least, could not have escaped Liberty's attention. Harte's lecture, later to become the kernel for his book by the same name (published in 1875), fired local imaginations with stories of the miners. He described life in the gold fields, painted word pictures of typical frontier towns, and concluded with his famous story of the card game between himself, Bill Nye, and Ah Sin, which had been delineated in *The Heathen Chinee*. Harte left his audience, and readers of reviews of the lecture, with strong, humorous impressions of the hard, but potentially very rewarding, life in the mining camps of the western states. Even if he were not in attendance, Liberty's decision to take himself and his family out to Utah to try his luck in the silver fields of Bingham Canyon was in the spirit of Harte's lecture. Liberty Holden believed that, unlike the since-depleted California gold fields, Utah had much remaining potential, if not in gold, in silver.

Early Development of Utah Mining

Bingham Canyon, Utah lies some 25 miles southwest of Salt Lake City, an area rich in galena (silver-bearing lead) and copper ore. The world's largest open copper mine, Kennecott's Open Cut Copper Mine, is located there now.

When Brigham Young brought the Mormons to the valley of the Great Salt Lake in 1847 there were no hints of the future wealth to be found just a short distance away, but gold fever following the Sutter's Mill discovery in 1849 caused a crisis for the church. Many of the new Mormon settlers were tempted to pick up stakes and cross the mountains to California, where promises of quick riches were to be found. Brigham Young actively discouraged his saints, as Mormons were known, from following such an example. Shortly after the 1849 discoveries in California Young wrote his followers: "Some few have caught the gold fever; I counseled such, and all the saints, to remain in the valleys of the mountains, make improvements, build comfortable houses, and raise grain. . . ."

Young's admonition had only temporary effect. In 1851 he was moved to write again: "We cannot eat gold and silver; neither do we want to bring into our peaceful settlements a rough, frontier population to vitiate the morals of our youth, overwhelm us by numbers and drive us again from our hard earned homes."

The crisis facing the church had changed subtly, and the emphasis of Young's warning to the saints was because of an influx of non-Mormons into Utah now, no longer because of the loss of saints to the California gold fields. After 1851 the Mormon Church actively discouraged prospectors and miners from looking for gold or silver in Bingham Canyon and elsewhere. The discouragement took the form, among others, of inordinately high prices charged for equipment and supplies bought from local sellers ($2.50 for a shovel, blasting powder $100 a keg, for example); refusal to act as guides for those unfamiliar with the local geography; and similar petty, but effective, stops to exploration.

The Civil War put an end to such obstacles. The Mormon Church had not been among the staunch supporters of the federal Constitution, and Young's intention had certainly been to found an independent nation of his saints in Utah. The federal government was uncertain of the church's loyalty and disapproved of some of its social practices, such as polygamous marriage, which outraged eastern conventions despite its alleged

Various Early Coins

Saint Patrick's or Mark Newby farthing. Made in Ireland in the 17th century.

1722 Pattern Wood's copper halfpenny.

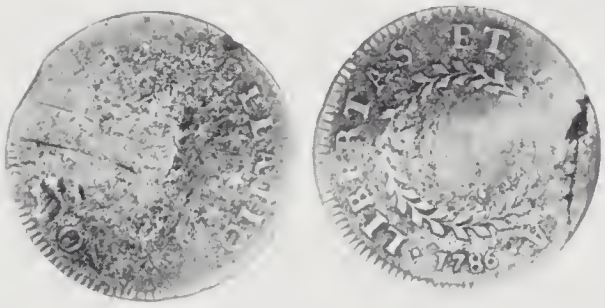
1724 Wood's halfpenny.

1739 Higley copper threepence made in Granby, Connecticut, from ore mined there.

1773 Virginia halfpenny made in London and distributed in the province of Virginia.

1776-dated copper issue, origin unknown, which some scholars attribute to the state of New Hampshire. The initials W.M. on the reverse may have stood for William Moulton.

1776 Continental Currency coin, rare variety with rings on the reverse composed of dots.



Nova Constellatio coppers were officially minted with the dates 1783 and 1785. Some counterfeits dated 1786 were produced, one of which is shown here. Curiously, the counterfeits are more valuable than the earlier-dated originals.

1791 trial piece for the reverse of a Washington copper cent. The obverse is blank.

DURING THE COLONIAL YEARS and immediately afterward, a wide variety of copper (mostly) and other coins bearing legends relating to America were circulated. Some interesting varieties are shown on this page.

practicality where women outnumbered men and the birth of more saints was called for if Mormons were ever to fill the land. Fearing a declaration of its secession from the Union, perhaps with Confederate aid from Texas, authorities in Washington ordered Colonel (later General) Patrick E. Connor to lead his Third California Infantry into Utah and take positions around Camp Douglas at the foot of the Wasatch Range, strategically overlooking Salt Lake City.

There may have been other, hidden motives for ordering Connor's regiment into Utah, for the 1,000 or so men in his command were all volunteers and most of them were experienced miners who had joined specifically to look for gold while on duty. Promises of such opportunities may have been made by recruiters, and rumors of unexploited deposits of silver and gold in Bingham Canyon made raising the regiment an easy job. Stationing Connor's men at Camp Douglas not only insured Utah's loyalty, but also opened the surrounding areas for exploration. For his part, Connor encouraged his men to look for silver and gold deposits by allowing them very liberal furloughs. The first discoveries were not long in coming. In September 1863 galena ore was discovered. News of the find was reported to Connor, who led a party into the canyon which confirmed it. The first mining claim staked in Utah was laid on September 17, 1863, and it was named the West Jordan. The following year Connor and his men incorporated the claim as the Jordan Silver Mining Company.

News of the find reached Salt Lake City soon after Connor heard of it, and it only confirmed Brigham Young's worst fears. Not only had a foreign army invaded his saints' peaceful valley, but it was an army of miners, and now they had found what Young knew would lead more outsiders into Utah. Accordingly, the campaign of non-involvement and discouragement begun around 1850 was stepped up in 1864.

By the end of 1865, with the Civil War all but won and the regiment's future in doubt, together with the lack of cooperation by the Mormons, conditions in Camp Douglas had deteriorated and capital for further exploitation of the West Jordan Mine was unavailable. Accordingly, the miner-soldiers held a camp meeting to discuss what they should do with their claims. The meeting was democratic, and anyone interested had a chance to speak his mind. After everyone had been heard the men voted to hold over their claims until the railroad arrived. No claim jumping was allowed, and all claims were held inviolate without the need to improve them in any way. These "soldier claims," some of which were very large and were held over for long periods of time, later resulted in lengthy litigation. Further development of Utah's mineral wealth did not come until 1870.

The Union Pacific and Central Pacific railroads met at Promontory Point, Utah in May 1869, thus linking the West Coast with the East. On January 10, 1870 the Utah Central Railroad completed its line from Ogden to Salt Lake City, connecting the mineral rich Wasatch and Bingham areas to the rest of the country. Access by railroad meant that not only could miners from east and west reach the fields of Utah, but, more important, that heavy equipment could be carried close to the fields and smelted ores could be shipped out to refineries. In 1870 mining began in earnest. When the first train traveled the Bingham Canyon and Camp Floyd Railroad Company line into the canyon, in October 1873, the future development of the West Jordan Mine was assured.

In 1874 a consortium of wealthy Clevelanders purchased ownership of the Nez Perces Chief and No-You-Don't mines in Bingham Canyon and looked about for an expert manager. Liberty Holden immediately came to mind. His experience running the Pittsburgh and Lake Angeline iron ore mines had made his reputation as a mine manager, and his own financial success in real estate and the profits he had made from selling his interests in the Lake Angeline property testified to his financial skills. On his part, Liberty was primed to accept the offer. He had studied mine engineering, metallurgy, and geology during the years he ran the Lake Angeline mine and was considered to be an expert in these fields. His academic bent, from his early childhood, impelled him to make a serious study of what he did not know. He realized that with the railroads reaching right into Bingham Canyon and railheads conveniently sited to receive ore and bring in machinery and supplies, Bingham Canyon was poised for rapid development. The opportunity must have seemed ripe. He had been a pioneer in his own way twice before, first when he left Maine for Michigan, then when he left Michigan for Cleveland. In each case he had made a success of the venture because he arrived on the scene with the right academic and business skills to profit from changing times. Liberty accepted the offer, closed his farmstead, and together with his family set out for Salt Lake City.

The Silver Fields of Utah

The Coinage Act of 1873 effectively demonetized silver, as no provision had been made in it for a silver dollar. The immediate impact of the legislation on the newly-opened mines in Bingham Canyon was disastrous, and in the country-wide Panic of 1873 many western mines closed or went bankrupt. Two of these latter, the Nez Perces Chief and the No-You-Don't, were sold to the Cleveland group, which then hired Liberty to manage them as superintendent, as noted earlier. Despite the prevailing economic climate, which was not favorable to new venture capital projects, the discovery of a new galena body in 1874 encouraged the new owners that the mine could be made profitable. Title to the new find of ore was disputed by one of General Connor's "soldier claims" of 1865, but a local court settled the case in favor of the Cleveland group.

The details and facts concerning the mining venture from 1874 to 1878 and Liberty's role in securing ownership of the company in 1876 are still a matter of controversy among historians. Nearly a quarter of a century afterward the events surrounding Liberty's takeover of the property were still fresh enough to lend ammunition to his political and business rivals' accusations against him. Liberty told a friend and employee in 1900 that the accusations were based on old court cases, all of which were settled in his favor. We know that this assertion was not true, so we can imagine that the events of 1874-1878 still caused him embarassment, and that he felt he had, perhaps, done something questionable, even if it were legal.

The new ore deposit found in 1874 was not enough, apparently, to make the venture very profitable to the new owners of the Nez Perces Chief and No-You-Don't mines. This was another reason for their sending Liberty out to superintend the mines, as he had a record of success elsewhere. What Liberty knew and when he knew it is a moot question now, but it may be significant that once he had acquired ownership of the mines

he announced the discovery of yet another, even bigger, deposit of silver-bearing galena. This is slightly ahead of our story, however.

Liberty's employers were discouraged that their mines were not making for them the fortunes they expected. Additionally, the depression in the silver mining business showed no signs of improving. The Cleveland group began looking for a way out of its investment, to cut their losses before they grew bigger, but was not yet ready, in 1876, to sell out entirely. According to an account, published in the *Deseret News* of August 26, 1913, some sort of scare story caused the "easterners," as the paper called them, to decide to unload their shares of stock in the company very quickly. What the story was is unknown, but the Cleveland group later claimed they heard it from Liberty himself and that it was told to depreciate the apparent value of their stock by misrepresenting fact.

The rest of the story can best be told in the *Deseret News'* words. Liberty was nicknamed "The Professor" by the miners in Bingham Canyon, since he never abandoned his pedagogical frame of mind, and the name stuck.

> Professor Holden came into prominence in the early activities of Utah through a lawsuit which involved the stock of the Old Jordan Mining Company. The suit, which was won in the end by Professor Holden, attracted at the time almost nationwide attention because of the million and more dollars involved, the questions upon which the suit was based, and the fact that the plaintiffs were eastern people representing large capital.
>
> In the late 70's, Professor Holden was superintendant of the Jordan Mining Company [sic] operating in the Bingham District, the mine showing a valuable output. Through some sort of scare, the eastern interests became keenly desirous of disposing of their holdings, and Mr. Holden offered a plan of buying. The stock was to be placed in escrow with W.S. McCornick, banker, and payments were to be made at intervals to Mr. Holden. After the last payment had been made, and the stock delivered, the former holders brought suit against Mr. Holden to recover the stock, alleging that it had been obtained by deception as to the value of the mine.
>
> The suit was long drawn out but was finally won by Mr. Holden, a feature of the testimony in favor of the defendant being a letter received by Mr. McCornick from the eastern stockholders at the time of the final settlement which expressed the hope that Holden would "make his pile."
>
> During the trial many characteristic utterances and answers were made by Mr. Holden, many of which are remembered to this day. He proved to be a most ready-witted and at times baffling witness. At one point in the proceedings when under severe fire of cross-examination, in response to a question from the opposing counsel as to whether or not Mr. Holden did not think himself selfish, the answer was flashed back: "Yes, of all my mother's sons, I love myself the best."

Information gained from other sources indicates there were actually two suits brought against Liberty by the Cleveland group that first sent him to Utah. The first was brought in 1878, following the passage of the Bland-Allison Act, the silver purchase provisions of which suddenly made silver mines look profitable again. As the just-quoted 1913 article noted, Liberty indeed won this case. The paper was wrong, however, when it said the mines showed a valuable output, as they were struggling at the time Liberty first arrived in Utah. They only began showing a valuable output *after* Liberty had finally acquired control of their stock. Additionally, the Old Jordan Mining Company was Liberty's creation and not the name of the original Clevelanders' venture.

The second suit against Liberty followed shortly after the first. The grounds of the second complaint were different, but the underlying issue was the same, namely, ownership of the now valuable silver mine stock. Liberty lost this case, and with it the ownership of the Nez Perces Chief and No-You-Don't mines, but not in the way one would expect, and not forever, either. After losing the suit Liberty appealed to the federal courts, which issued a stay of execution on the judgment of the state court that had found against him. The share certificates were not sequestered, however. Pending assumption of the appeal by the federal court Liberty sold ownership of the two mines to a French company formed for the purpose of buying them, Société des Mines d'Argent et Fonderies de Bingham.

Whether Liberty believed that the granting of his appeal overturned the lower court's judgment, thus giving him clear title to the mines and the right to sell them if he pleased, or whether he believed that by selling to a foreign company the issue of rightful possession would have to be adjudicated before legal ownership could be determined (thus creating what would have to be lengthy delays in the suit brought by the absentee plaintiffs), is unknown since he did not publicly discuss the controversy later in life. However, when word of the sale reached his former employers and the state and federal court, the worst interpretation was put on his behavior. After some discussion, perhaps heated at times, a compromise was effected. The French company was made the rightful possessor and owner of the Nez Perces Chief and No-You-Don't mines, and Liberty agreed to pay the Cleveland group $200,000 in settlement of their claims against him. Liberty dropped his appeal of the case he lost, and the Clevelanders agreed to hold him blameless in the future for his actions.

In 1899 Liberty's mining interests were consolidated, and ownership was vested in the United States Mining Company, formed by Liberty's son Albert Fairchild Holden. The first act of the new holding company was to buy out the Société des Mines, thereby regaining ownership of Liberty's first two silver mines.

The Old Jordan Mine

In 1877, after he had paid the final installment and had acquired ownership of the Nez Perces Chief and No-You-Don't mines, Liberty added several smaller, adjacent claims to his properties and renamed the venture the Old Telegraph Mine. At the same time, he acquired the Old Jordan Mine, Utah's first silver mine, and formed a company he named the Jordan Mining and Smelting Company, to own and operate the two groups.

The Old Jordan, operated by General Connor's Jordan Silver Mining Company, was sold in 1870 to three owners, who erected a smelter at the site to process the lead and silver ores located there. Three years later the mine was sold again. The new own-

Rosa Americana Coinage

1733 Rosa Americana
Pattern Twopence

1724 Rosa Americana Penny
with reverse inscription
ROSA SINE SPINA ("rose
without thorns")

Pattern Rosa
Americana Penny

Two Rosa Americana twopence pieces: an undated (1722) piece shown to the left, severely double struck; and a rare 1724 pattern shown above, with W.W. and VIII JVNE engraved on obverse and reverse.

WILLIAM WOOD, an English entrepreneur and copper mine owner, received a patent from George I to strike coins for America. Coins were produced in three denominations: halfenny, penny, and twopence. The obverse depicted King George, while the reverse bore an inscription relating to America, ROSA AMERICANA ("the American rose"). Most pieces struck for circulation were produced in 1722 and 1723, although some 1724 issues were struck, as were patterns of earlier and later dates.

The coins were underweight in comparison to other coinage of the era, with the Rosa Americana penny being no largr than the contemporary British halfpenny, a coin half its value. The pieces were not well received in America, so most were placed into circulation within the British Isles. William Wood also produced a coinage for Ireland, copper farthings and halfpennies of 1722-1724 bearing the inscription HIBERNIA.

OVERLEAF: View of the hoisting works at the Old Jordan Mine in Utah, 1891. Smoke can be seen rising from the stack of one of the three furnaces. The figure on the right middle ground is pushing a cart of ore toward the furnace, along the narrow gauge track from a mine.

ers built a wooden flume 12 miles long to bring water to the smelter, at a cost of $120,000, but no sooner was the flume in place than silver was demonetized by the Coinage Act of 1873, and the profitability of mining silver disappeared. The owners struggled on until 1875, when they sold out to the Galena Silver Mining Company, which took over operations and built a large, five-stack smelter on the Jordan River. In 1877 Liberty's Jordan Mining and Smelting Company purchased the property. Unlike his predecessors, who had concentrated their efforts on finding and refining the silver content of the galena ore, Liberty focused his efforts on the more plentiful, if less valuable, lead ore in the galena bodies. This change can certainly be ascribed to Liberty's study of metallurgy and his practical experience in the silver fields. Passage of the Bland-Allison Act in 1878 boosted silver prices, making silver mining very profitable once again, and Liberty's mines began producing silver ore with renewed effort.

The minesite housing developed for the Old Jordan Mine was located in the left fork of Bingham Canyon and was reached by a narrow, winding dirt road that climbed steeply up to the camp. A livery stable at the foot of the track provided animals for transportation. At the minesite were located an office building for the superintendent and his staff, a cottage for the owner, staff housing, a clubhouse for the miners as well as barracks housing for them, a one-room schoolhouse for the employees' children (this was run by one teacher), and an assay office. The cookhouse was operated by a Chinese employee.

A three-mile long horse-drawn tramway carried ore from the mine to the railhead. Empty ore cars were drawn by horses up the tramway to the mine site, where they were loaded. After loading, the horses were turned loose to make their way back to the railhead; the loaded cars were set rolling down the steep, narrow gauge track, with a brakeman at the end of the string of cars, who kept their downhill speed under control. When Albert Holden took control of the mine this primitive system was replaced by an aerial tramway of ore buckets suspended on wires, the whole contraption supported by wooden towers at 100-foot intervals. The ore received at the railhead was carried by train to Holden's smelter complex at Midvale where the ores were separated and concentrated for shipment to refineries elsewhere.

Liberty maintained a solidly built Victorian-style home in Salt Lake City, on the southeast corner of South Temple and East Fifth Streets. South Temple Street later became Salt Lake City's "millionaire's row," where the wealthy and fashionable lived. He lived there, while he was not at his mine sites, from 1879 until he left Utah in 1885. On leaving, he sold the house to John Dooly, architect of the famous "Dooly Block" in Salt Lake City, where Liberty's son Albert later maintained his own offices. Much of Liberty's time was spent at the mine head in Bingham Canyon where he personally oversaw operations.

In 1879 Liberty sold the Jordan Mining and Smelting Company to the Jordan Mining and Milling Company, but the change was only one of name as he controlled the new company through ownership of its stock. The change served to protect him from possible future claims against his interests resulting from the suit he had just settled. He also realized a profit from the paper sale. For the next 10 years Liberty's workers in mines extracted the gold, silver, and lead ores found in the Jordan claims.

Passage of the Sherman Silver Purchase Act in 1890 was a boon to the western silver interests who had lobbied for its enactment, since it committed the secretary of the Treasury to purchase 4.5 million ounces of silver monthly at the prevailing market price. Liberty responded by consolidating all his interests, to streamline production and hold costs down as much as possible. Despite the profitability of silver, however, the Old Jordan was primarily a lead producer. Production figures for this early period of Utah's mining history were not preserved, so we do not know exactly how much ore was smelted in Liberty's active days. By 1895-1896 Liberty had sold his mining interests to his son. Liberty had made his fortune by then and Albert had yet to make his. There was an unfavorable economic climate partly as a result of the depression following the repeal of the Sherman Act and the ensuing Panic of 1893. Liberty believed if *anyone* could profit from the mines, despite the poor economic conditions, his son could. Liberty told a friend in 1894 that the Old Jordan was losing $15,000 each month, which suggests the degree to which the Panic affected Utah's mining industry. But, as the friend had come asking for an increase to the operating budget of another of Liberty's ventures, the *Plain Dealer* newspaper, we can assume that the figure may have been inflated. In any event, profitability soon returned to the mines, if indeed it was ever absent.

We do have figures for a few years, taken from *The Economic Geology of the Bingham Mining District* (United States Geological Service, 1905). While these totals apply to years following the transfer of ownership to his son, and have been evaluated using 1900 market values, they at least suggest the size and profitability of Liberty's mining ventures. For example, in 1896 the Jordan Mining and Milling Company shipped 6,000 tons of lead, at the 1900 market price of 4.4 cents per pound worth $528,000. Production the following year jumped nearly sevenfold, with 39,000 tons of lead shipped worth $3,432,000 in 1900 prices. These figures are only for the lead ore extracted and smelted. Operating costs are unknown, so total profitability cannot be determined. Albert Holden told the author of the above referenced study that between 1899 and 1900 total shipments of all types of ores from the Old Jordan amounted to $12 million. In the same communication he noted that the Old Telegraph, which had been reacquired in 1899, shipped a total of $16 million worth of ores in the same period. More accurate figures for the Holden mining empire are available from 1899 to 1913, following the consolidation of all the mining interests under Albert's holding company. The figures suggest, however, that Liberty's Old Telegraph and Old Jordan mines were far from lackluster operations. Albert Holden estimated in 1900 that his father's properties had produced a total of $16 million worth of ores during Liberty's tenure, 1876-1895.

The *Deseret News* of March 1, 1879 reported that Liberty Holden made the first telephone call in the Territory of Utah, from his Salt Lake City home to Fort Douglas. The paper called the telephone "Bell's talking instrument," and noted that the quality of the transmission was "astonishing," saying that the ticking of a watch sounded as loud as the ticking of a large clock. Liberty's and the army's telephones were the first in Utah.

Always the pedagogue whatever his latest venture, Liberty was instrumental in founding the Salt Lake Academy, which opened its doors on September 9, 1878 with 100 students. The Academy was modeled after New England institutions (here we see a reflection of Liberty's early career), and was dedicated to meet the needs ". . .for destitute portions of this and neighboring Territories, to prepare for entrance into foremost institutions, clas-

1776 Continental Currency

THE 1776 CONTINENTAL CURRENCY COIN (above) has been the subject of much debate. Shown here is a unique variation with a floral design after the word CURRENCY. On this particular variety the inscription was first incorrectly spelled as CURRENCEY. The erroneous second E was partially effaced and overpunched with a Y, and the misplaced Y there originally was overpunched with a floral design.

Standard Continental currency coins were struck in pewter, although a few were made of brass, and fewer still were struck in silver. For years numismatists viewed the pewter units as Continental "dollars," but in recent times information has come to light which indicates that the value of a penny was intended for the pewter impressions. Perhaps the silver pieces saw service as a dollar. The design is copied from that used on contemporary paper money authorized by the Continental Congress.

OVERLEAF: The officers and supervisory staff of the Old Jordan and Galena Mine, 1891. Liberty E. Holden is standing second from the right. Albert F. Holden is standing beside him third from the right. Liberty Dean Holden, who later ran the Hollenden Hotel, is seated at the lowest step, on the extreme left.

sical or scientific; to fit young persons for the study of a profession or entrance into a business." Established in rooms neighboring Independence Hall, owned by the First Congregational Church of Salt Lake City, the Academy included in its list of prohibitions that "No tobacco would be tolerated." Liberty was president of the Academy from its opening until 1890, when the public school system was adopted. There were no public schools in Salt Lake City during this period, and the Academy was the sole educational institution there which was not organized and maintained by the Mormon Church.

In 1880 a new building was added to the Academy, Hammond Hall, built at a cost of $35,000 on land at 330 East Third Street and advertised as being conveniently located "on the streetcar line." The stone structure sat on a large, 2½-acre site. When the public school system was adopted the Academy dropped its primary and intermediate levels, concentrating on the upper levels, like a modern college preparatory high school, and added an evening school division located across the street from Clift House, a prominent hostelry. Hammond Hall was a boarding school. In its first year it housed 150 students who paid $8 per term for tuition, $2.50 for board, and between 50 cents and $1.50 per room, depending on the size and appointments. In 1895 the Academy's name was changed to Salt Lake College, a college level having been added to the curriculum. The new college listed itself as ". . .non-sectarian, but thoroughly Christian and earnestly evangelical." Mormons were not considered to be Christians and were excluded from enrollment.

Hammond Hall's cornerstone was opened many years later, on May 15, 1936. According to that day's issue of the *Deseret News*, coins dating from 1858 to 1882 (sic) were found in the stone. Unfortunately for later numismatists no record of the denominations, dates, or mintmarks was kept, so we will never know what was recovered from the stone. It is tempting to contemplate Liberty's hand in including coins in the contents of the cornerstone, but again, this will never be known for certain.

Silver and Politics

Political life in Salt Lake City was aligned along the major social distinction among its inhabitants, namely, whether or not one was a Mormon or a "gentile," as the Mormons called nonbelievers. The Mormon Church at first took a non-involvement attitude toward "gentile" political affairs, but as the territory began to attract national attention through reports and finds of silver, the Church was forced to acknowledge the importance of "gentile" political concerns. Accordingly, the Mormons adopted a two-party system of their own, which involved splitting their People's Party of the Mormon Church into two parts and arbitrarily naming one Democrats and the other Republicans. Membership was, as might be expected, confined to Mormons only. Gentiles desiring membership were placed in a third category, the "Liberal Party," which had no political influence in the city. Mormon domination of the so-called Democratic and Republican Parties was later to be challenged by some Church members who felt that acceptance by mainstream America was more important, in the long run, than preservation of Church dominance in local political affairs. These were the dissidents, few in number, who formed a faction in the Democratic Party of the time and who would form the cadre for the reorganization of the Democrats later on.

As the owner of Utah's oldest silver mine, as well as one of the richest men in Salt Lake City, it was inevitable that Liberty Holden would be looked to for leadership in political affairs as he had already been in social and educational ones. As a member of the First Congregational Church, which met in Independence Hall, Liberty took an active role in his church's condemnation of polygamy and Mormon domination of local politics. The *Deseret News* of March 13, 1896 reported in an article touching upon history that in 1881, as Liberty was driving ex-President Benjamin Harrison, Senator John Sherman (a friend of Liberty's and later author of the Sherman Silver Purchase Act), and Judge Strong around Salt Lake City on a sight-seeing tour, Holden declared, "Polygamists should not vote, sit on juries, or hold office." Senator Sherman agreed with Liberty and invited him to Washington to assist in drafting legislation to that effect. Liberty was in Washington the following year, on another assignment, but found that Senator George Edmunds of Vermont had already sent similar legislation to the floor. The Vermont senator's bill became the basis of future laws that disenfranchised and resulted in the arrest of some 1,200 Mormons who refused to give up the practice of polygamy.

Liberty first took an active role in politics in 1882, when he was chosen to travel to Washington as a delegate of the Utah Mine Protective Association to argue against a reduction in the protective tariffs then in effect on imports of industrial raw materials. The lobbying effort was successful, resulting in passage of the so-called "Mongrol Tariff" of March 3, 1883, which reduced duties on some consumer goods (including some in short supply in the West) but retained or increased duties on articles already tariffed by the Act of 1875.

In 1884 Liberty joined with the dissident group in the Mormon Democratic Party and spoke out against Church domination of local politics. At a meeting of the Utah Democratic Club he gave a speech in support of Grover Cleveland's presidential candidacy. After Cleveland's election the regular Democrats, as the dissidents now called themselves, met at Walker's Opera House to signal their victory after a rousing torchlight parade through the city. The chairman of the party drove all polygamists from the Democratic party, which renamed itself the Party of the Right. Liberty Holden gave a speech in support of the break.

The following year Liberty was chosen as a delegate to the National Bimetallic Association's meeting in Washington, where he was selected as chairman of the executive committee. The Association, later called the National Bimetallic League, was organized to fight against the *de facto* gold standard created by the Coinage Act of 1873. Its goal was the remonetization of silver. Naturally, the western silver interests took a leading part in Association activities, underwriting its costs and publication of pamphlets supporting its cause. Nicholas Veeder's important *Cometallism, Gold, Silver, and Paper Money* (1885) was one of the pamphlets whose composition was encouraged by the Association. The famous "Republic of Eutopia" cometallic "dollar" of 1886 put the Association's goals into coinage form. It featured a gold center weighing 12.9 grains surrounded by a silver band weighing 206.25 grains, the total value of the metals being equivalent to that of a United States dollar of the day. A "half dollar" of similar pattern was also manufactured at this time, bearing a silver shell of 109.68 grains enclosing a gold center weighing

6.856 grains, the total value of the metals being 59 cents. Both privately-made "patterns" are very rare today and were probably originally made for presentation to important delegates to the annual meetings of 1885 and 1886.

In politics Liberty has been called "a bred in the bone Jeffersonian Democrat" by one author (Archer Shaw, *The Plain Dealer-The First One Hundred Years in Cleveland*, 1942), but his political leanings were more pragmatic ones than determined by any system of beliefs. His advocacy of the remonetization of silver and his support of Senator Sherman's campaign to push the Silver Purchase Act through Congress were based largely upon the self interest of a mine owner. His membership in the Democratic Party in Salt Lake City was based mainly upon his moral and religious beliefs that Mormonism as a political and social institution should be suppressed in Utah. Later, as a newspaper owner and publisher, he proclaimed that "all government should be for the good of the governed."

Twice elected as a delegate from Ohio to the Democratic National Convention, in 1888 and 1896, Liberty Holden supported William Jennings Bryan on the national ticket in the latter year because of the candidate's advocacy of the free coinage of silver, while privately condemning the "anarchists" and other opponents of capitalism with whom Liberty found himself in company within the party. Back home in Cleveland his newspaper would refuse editorial support of the Democratic candidate for mayor in the election of 1899; and its chief rival, the *Leader*, accused Liberty of being a national Democrat but a local Republican. Liberty made only one public address on the subject of free trade and protectionism, written following President Grover Cleveland's message advocating free trade in 1883. Published in pamphlet form at Liberty's own expense for further circulation, the speech included this ringing exhortation: "What we want is protection, fixed, decided, and permanent, to be known and sustained as a national policy. . . To protection we owe our prosperity, our strength, and our credit." Titled *Tariff for Protection. An Address Before the Workingmen at Cleveland, Ohio, February 17, 1883*, the message was so "un-democratic" that it was picked up and published by the Republican *Leader* as an editorial! Whatever his beliefs of the moment, he held them strongly. On the subject of the free coinage of silver he was most strong.

The Plain Dealer

After Liberty Holden moved with his family from Utah back to Cleveland, in 1885, he purchased an ailing Democratic newspaper, the *Herald*, which he merged with his purchase of the *Plain Dealer* the following year. Both papers were to provide a forum for his political and social ideas.

Today, the *Plain Dealer* newspaper (earlier called the *Cleveland Plain Dealer*; we shall use the paper's current name) is one of the most respected and authoritative dailies in America, having changed from a mainly Midwestern focus by expanding its coverage of national and international stories. When Liberty Holden purchased the paper, in the spring of 1885, the *Plain Dealer* was a small but vociferous city newspaper with a very colorful past but an uncertain future. It was 43 years old then, and despite the financial difficulties its new owner faced, Liberty could point with pride to the national attention it had already garnered.

The *Plain Dealer* was founded in 1842, its first editor being J.W. Gray. The first edition appeared on January 7 of that year, and was distributed to 300 subscribers. The initial investment in the paper was $1,000, not a grand sum even for the time. Humble beginnings notwithstanding, the new paper soon made its presence felt in a now famous altercation with the English novelist Charles Dickens.

In April of 1842 J.W. Gray ran an editorial which he picked up from the *Index*, published in Alexandria, Virginia. Headlined "War With England," the militant editorial reflected Southern outrage at the refusal of British authorities in Nassau to surrender slaves carried in the American brig *Creole*. The *Creole* had been bound for New Orleans from Hampton Roads, Virginia in March 1842, when the slaves she carried mutinied, slaughtered the white crew, and sailed her to Nassau where they sought and received sanctuary and their freedom. Secretary of State Daniel Webster demanded the return of the mutineers, but met with refusal. In Congress, Representative Joshua R. Giddings of the Western Reserve district of Ohio offered resolutions based on the *Creole* case, calling for the abolition of coastal trade in slaves, but he was censured by Congress, which was outraged by Britain's position. Anti-British sentiment was strong in the nation in early 1842. The boundary dispute between the United States and British Canada over where to draw the line separating Maine from New Brunswick had created much ill will in America, occasioned by the intransigence of Lord Melbourne, head of the Queen's government. This may explain why a Southern editorial calling for war with Great Britain could be reprinted in an Ohio newspaper despite the censure and resignation of Representative Giddings.

It left nothing to its readers' imaginations:

> We must confess we are astonished at the apparent apathy of Congress on the subject of a war with England. . . . The people demand war! Our country is insulted and her glory is dimmed by the insolence of England. We should act as a man would act who has been insulted on the walk. Thank God, the old blood of the Revolution is still trickling in our veins. We whipped England when we were in our infancy; we thrashed her again when we arrived at the age of manhood; and with the blessing of God we can in a short time sing "Jefferson and Liberty" in Hyde Park and "Hail Columbia" in the scarlet halls of Westminster.

This rousing call to arms might have gone unnoticed outside the narrow circle of the paper's readership had it not appeared just as Charles Dickens arrived in Sandusky, Ohio while on an American lecture tour.

Dickens described the minor diplomatic incident in his *American Notes* (1842), the published version of the journal he kept during his tour which found fault with nearly everything American he encountered during his visit. While stopped at Sandusky he saw a copy of the *Plain Dealer* and read the editorial, which did nothing to make him feel kindly toward Ohioans, whose seemingly rude manners, compared to the early Victorian niceties he was used to, also upset him and his wife.

When his steamer docked at Cleveland injury was added to insult. He was a celebrity and his tour had been well publicized, so when the boat arrived a crowd of locals was on hand to meet the world-famous novelist. They pushed on board, climbed up

to the accommodation deck, and flocked outside his cabin door awaiting his appearance. Two of them, unwilling to wait, opened his door, elbowed past his wife who was somewhat startled by their affrontery, and stood behind the great man, staring over his shoulder, watching him shave.

In *American Notes* Dickens described his feelings in this way: "I was so incensed at this and at a certain newspaper published in that town which I had accidentally seen in Sandusky, that when the mayor came on board to present himself to me, according to custom, I refused to see him. . . ." Dickens later did receive him, but only after keeping him waiting long enough to even the scales by infuriating the mayor with the delay. Dickens watched, with pleasure we can be sure, as the mayor picked up a large stick and began furiously whittling it with a huge clasp knife. He kept him waiting until the stick had become a toothpick! This was the first time the *Plain Dealer* received more than local attention. Fifteen years later the paper would be noticed nationwide, its daily editions awaited eagerly, even by a future president, Abraham Lincoln.

In October 1857 Editor Gray made the best decision for his paper since deciding to found it. In that month a young writer walked into his office looking for a job, and on a chance Gray hired Charles Farrar Browne, better known under his pen name as Artemus Ward, Lincoln's favorite humorist, second only to Mark Twain in popularity. Ward's humorous columns and reviews received national attention and were syndicated to many other dailies and some monthlies, especially in the sophisticated East. Ward may have done more than any other single person in spreading the *Plain Dealer's* name across the country. He eventually joined *Vanity Fair* in 1860, a measure of his standing.

Artemus Ward was the name Browne gave to a fictional character he created who embodied the brash, untutored western spirit of the day. Artemus was poorly educated, unskilled at lying, but a great teller of tall tales, and always out for a buck no matter the means to get it. He was introduced to readers of the *Plain Dealer* in 1857/1858 as the leader of a wonderful traveling show which planned to make its next stop in Cleveland. The show never reached there, of course, because its progress was the vehicle for Browne's humor. A typical sample of Ward's style may be found in an early "letter" to the editor:

> Pitsburg, Jan.27,18&58
>
> The Plane Deeler:
> Sir:
> i write to no how about the show bisnes in Cleeveland i have a show consisting in part of a Californy Bare two snakes tame foxes &c also wax works my wax works is hard to beat, all say they is life and nateral curiosities among my wax works is our Saveyer Gen taylor and Docktor Webster in the akt of killing Parkmen. now mr. Editor scratch off a few lines and tel me how is the show bisnis in your good city i shal have hanbils printed at your office you scratch my back and i will scratch your back, also git up a grate blow in the paper about my show don't forgit the wax works.
>
> yours truly
> Artemus Ward
> Pitsburg Penny

Besides chronicling Ward's endless progress towards the good city of Cleveland, Browne wrote humor under his own name and reviews of cultural events of the day. On one occasion his mother is said to have told him to be more respectful of her, reminding him of what the Bible said on the subject. Browne replied "Well, I expect I ought to, but it is so different from the *Plain Dealer* I don't putter with it much. . .a man cannot serve two masters, and I'm a democrat." At another time, Browne was told to attend a lecture by Ralph Waldo Emerson. All Cleveland's intelligentsia were there, including those with pretensions to understanding Emerson's sometimes obscure images. The lecture hall was hot, and Emerson spoke for a long time. Browne's review the next day read, in part: "He is a man of massive intellect, a great and profound thinker, but. . .his lecture last night was rather a sleepy affair. For our part. . .we had quite as lief see a perpendicular coffin behind a lecture desk as Emerson. The one would amuse as much as the other."

As mentioned earlier, Browne later left the *Plain Dealer* and went to work for *Vanity Fair*. Before his death, at only 33, he had published two collections of his Artemus Ward stories and gone on lecture tours in America and England recounting Ward's exploits. When he died, in 1867, the name of the *Plain Dealer* was known in newspaper and magazine circles and was familiar to the most sophisticated readers in the country. When Liberty Holden purchased the paper 18 years later he bought a vehicle for his own political ideas that would garner national attention for them.

By 1885 Liberty was a successful businessman who had proved himself in the courts, and in the silver fields of Utah. He must have felt that running a newspaper was no different from running any other sort of business. While he learned differently, it was not until 1898 that he finally realized that the newspaper business required professionals trained by experience to the task, and that the ordinary precepts of business did not altogether apply to running a great newspaper. When, at last, he gave up the reins of editorial control to men more skilled than he and saw the paper prosper, he at least had the grace to admit his mistake, perhaps with relief, for he never fully felt comfortable with the single role of owner. He always felt he should exercise some editorial control over the paper, if only to keep its editorial column aligned with his own political beliefs.

In the beginning, however, Liberty ran his paper as he ran his mines. He was a "roll up your sleeves and take charge" kind of manager. When he was in residence in Cleveland, no detail was too small to escape his attention. He favored especially the editorial page, which soon became the champion of his favored causes, chief among them the free coinage of silver and the national Democratic Party.

It was accepted and completely usual that a newspaper would unerringly reflect the views of its owners. William Randolph Hearst's New York *American*, which Hearst used to promote his own beliefs and prejudices, is the classic case that gave birth to the phrase "yellow journalism." Liberty's *Plain Dealer* did not qualify for such a characterization, but its outspoken support for William Jennings Bryan in the 1896 campaign did not fall far short of it.

Between 1885, when he bought the *Plain Dealer*, and 1893, when he jointly assumed editorial page control with Charles E. Kennedy, Liberty spent almost as much time overseeing his affairs, and his son's, in Utah and the West as he did in Cleveland, and the paper was run much as it had been earlier. The

Early photograph of the Cleveland Plain Dealer Building located at West Third and Frankfort streets in 1875. When Liberty E. Holden purchased the newspaper some eight years after this photograph was taken, the paper was still located in this building. (Photograph from the archives of the *Plain Dealer*)

View of the Plain Dealer Publishing Company Building, 1906. The location is East Sixth and Superior streets. At the time Liberty E. Holden owned the newspaper the population of Cleveland was under 400,000. On the front of the building, beneath the sign that reads "Plain Dealer Publishing Company," may be seen a bulletin board which lists jobs available in the company. The advertising inscription on the sign to the right bears the slogan "No breakfast complete without it." (From the archives of the *Plain Dealer*)

editorial page in the early days of Liberty's proprietorship reflected his views, but the actual running of the *Plain Dealer* was in the hands of his brother, Roman R. Holden, and J.H.A. Bone, then editor-in-chief. The year 1893 was pivotal for the paper, seeing changes that would affect its future, with ramifications felt even today.

Early in that year Liberty hired one of the two men who would shape the paper most profoundly, and who would ultimately wrest control of its editorial policy away from his employer. Charles E. Kennedy, late of the *Herald*, a skilled reporter but without much business experience, was hired as the paper's general manager. Kennedy was never much Liberty's man, although in the early years he paid respect to the man who owned the paper and paid his salary. He tried to manage the business of the *Plain Dealer* as a professional would, and in the beginning did not concern himself much with its editorial content. In September 1893 Bone was suspended as editor-in-chief and relegated to the book review department, where he languished. Kennedy was appointed editor, but Liberty assumed joint editorial control with him.

Liberty may have proclaimed his paper's policy in its inaugural editorial as: "We shall at all times be watchful of the right of man, holding that man is superior to party and that all government should be for the good of the governed," but his own feelings about the rights of man did not include acceptance of unionism, which, to him, smacked of anarchism. With true business vision, Liberty decided to streamline his printshop by introducing the latest in technology, the Mergenthaler typesetting machine (patented 1884 and 1885), which cut down on manpower needs and increased productivity by mechanizing a previously hand-done operation. Workers in the printshop promptly declared a strike, fearing for their jobs. Liberty reacted by firing all the striking workers immediately and serving notice that no union member of any kind would ever work for his newspapers again. The *Plain Dealer* remained an open shop through 1925.

From 1893 until 1898 Liberty Holden wrote many of the editorials appearing in the paper, and those he did not write he approved before they were published. These were the years of Liberty's maximum influence over the running of the *Plain Dealer*. Charles Kennedy fought with Liberty over many issues rightly the concern of the business manager, because Liberty had not yet learned that a newspaper was not the same thing as a silver mine. On October 2, 1893 Kennedy lowered the weekly subscription price of the paper from 20 to 10 cents, in an effort to increase circulation. Liberty stormed into Kennedy's office to denounce the change, and the two wrangled for some time. When, at last, Liberty had cooled down, he said, "I will admit that the *Plain Dealer* is not worth 20 cents a week, but I am not quite willing to see it go into bankruptcy. Why not reduce it to 15 cents?" Kennedy replied that a partial reduction would only start a price war. He argued that a big reduction would undercut the rival *Leader*, while a smaller one would allow the *Leader* to drop its own price in reply and still remain profitable to its owners. Once started on a downhill slide, each paper would have to respond to its rival's price reductions, and who could tell where it all would end? Liberty reluctantly agreed with the drop in price. An unlikely ally for Kennedy's cause was Liberty's son Dean, manager of the Hollenden Hotel, who supported Kennedy's independence in business decisions.

Kennedy and his friend Dean did not win all their arguments with the old man, however. In the spring of 1897, following Bryan's defeat the previous year, and with it Liberty's hopes of reviving something like the Sherman Silver Purchase Act (which had been repealed in 1893), Liberty decided that the nation was on the brink of financial collapse. Accordingly, he decided to streamline his Cleveland business affairs and started by reducing the Hollenden Hotel's operating budget by 25%. Dean objected, but in vain. Liberty then confronted Kennedy with the same reduction, and when Kennedy objected, saying the cutback would imperil the paper's future, Liberty replied (in a rare, recorded quote), "But all sensible men are reducing expenses now. I tell you, Charlie Kennedy, we are in the midst of a panic and no man can foresee the end. They wanted a gold standard and now they are getting it." War with Spain the following year diverted attention away from economic problems and the great panic Liberty feared did not occur.

Kennedy had a few tricks for handling Liberty's interference with the paper, one of the subtlest being an appeal to Liberty's love of "all things New England." Kennedy had hired William R. Rose to write for the Sunday edition of the paper. Rose was a respected short story writer and a middling poet, who had gotten his start in journalism on Cleveland's *Sunday Morning Voice*, edited by Harry L. Vail. Rose's stories in the Sunday edition of the *Plain Dealer* were lighthearted, not to be taken seriously, just Sunday diversions for the readers. Liberty apparently missed the point, however, when he first saw Rose's work in print. He asked Kennedy, "You surely do not call these stories literature, do you?" to which Kennedy replied that they were liked in Cleveland and that the Boston papers were reprinting them. This was enough for Liberty, who thereafter left Rose alone. As Kennedy says in his *Fifty Years of Cleveland, 1875-1925*, Liberty was a sucker for anything with the New England label.

Liberty's nagging interference in the day to day running of the paper eventually got to Kennedy, and in 1898 he left to join the St. Louis *Post Dispatch*. Left on his own, Liberty soon realized that running a paper without professional help was not like running a mine, and he admitted that the *Plain Dealer* was better off under Kennedy than it could be under Holden. His son, Dean Holden, secretly traveled to St. Louis to meet Kennedy, bearing Liberty's terms for a new relationship, one that was also new to the newspaper publishing business. Liberty agreed to give full business and editorial control, under contract, to Charles Kennedy and Elbert H. Baker; they in turn agreed to pay a set, yearly sum to Liberty and the corporation that owned the paper's stock. This contractual relationship governed the running of the paper through 1907, when Kennedy retired. Professional management and a large measure of editorial independence for the paper was assured by the contract, and Liberty's investment in it was protected by the annual payment. The relationship was workable only as long as all parties to it respected each other's interests, and probably could not have worked as well as it did had different personalities been involved.

Liberty could not entirely relinquish the reins, however, and the new relationship was tested almost at once. In the 1899 mayoral election the Democrats chose as their candidate John Farley, a tough politician who had already served one term as Cleveland's mayor, 1883-1884. The *Plain Dealer*, although a Democratic newspaper, took no editorial position during the campaigning, in retaliation for Farley's denial of access to the paper's reporters during his first term. Incensed at the lack of support

In 1908 the old Plain Dealer Publishing Company building was destroyed by fire. The structure was replaced by the new Plain Dealer building erected on the same site, and shown here in a 1909 photograph. A later addition to the building doubled its size. This is the present home of the *Plain Dealer*. (From the archives of the *Plain Dealer*)

from the city's largest Democratic paper, Farley, who had supported Liberty's candidacy as delegate to the Democratic Convention in 1896, visited Holden in his offices in the Hollenden Hotel and demanded the owner's intervention. Liberty sent a message to the paper's night editor, demanding support in the next morning's editorial. Kennedy and Baker then visited Holden in his room, at midnight, and after hearing Holden rail at them for failing their paper's party, not to mention the owner's, they settled down to a more cordial discussion. After listening to Liberty tell them stories of his days in Utah, they left with Liberty's admission that his order of support had been out of line and that they were free to do as they pleased. The next edition of the paper still took no stand in the election, and Farley recognized that his pressuring tactic had failed. Hat in hand, he came to Kennedy's office the next day, and after extracting a promise of favorable treatment for his reporters in future, Kennedy wrote the first editorial supporting the Democratic candidate. Farley won election to a second term.

After 1902 Liberty had little to do with his newspaper. He had divested himself of most of his business ventures by that time, relinquishing control of his Utah mines to his son Albert and the Hollenden Hotel to his younger son Liberty Dean. Had Dean not died in 1906, the *Plain Dealer* would have been his. Instead, Albert purchased ownership of the paper's stock for $500,000. Albert Holden and Charles Kennedy did not get along well and in 1907 Kennedy left the paper and retired. One of his last editorials supported the three-cent street railroad fare in Cleveland proposed by Mayor Tom Johnson, whom Albert likened to William Jennings Bryan, calling them both "representatives of a dangerous element." Five years later, in 1912, Congressman Bulkely, a relative of Albert Holden by marriage, proposed reviving the old three-cent coin denomination, to make paying the streetcar fare easier. *The Numismatist* of February 1912 noted the congressman's proposal without supporting it, going on to say that earlier the Cleveland Ladies Club had called for the resurrection of the half cent.

Liberty Holden and Numismatics

To what degree Liberty was involved with collecting coins is not exactly known. As a New Englander, proud of his family's heritage, we can be sure he had some of the qualities that predispose towards collecting—an interest in his country's history and a deep personal involvement in it. We know he owned a collection of paintings and other art work, so we can also be sure he had been bitten by the collecting bug.

References to his involvement with coins, as a hobby, are few, but because of that they are that much more tantalizing. As the owner of one of Utah's most productive silver mines, he had more than a passing interest in the market price of silver. From this we can go further and assume that he had some interest in the government's plans for the silver coinage. Liberty's fortune was made when the Bland-Allison Act was passed in 1878, and while there are no records of his involvement to point to, it was in his interest to see that the legislation was successfully steered through Congress. Similarly, the passage of the Sherman Silver Purchase Act, in 1890, rescued many failing silver mines, and again we can assume Liberty had some interest in seeing that the Act was passed. Liberty knew Senator Sherman personally, and it will be remembered that the Senator invited him to Washington in 1881, to work with him on an anti-polygamy bill. It is unlikely that Liberty was unaware of the silver purchase legislation; it is more likely, although it cannot be stated as a fact, that he had a hand in promoting its passage.

These suppositions are strengthened by some further observations that are founded on fact. Liberty was chosen to represent the Utah Mine Protective Association at the tariff hearings in Washington in 1882, where he lobbied, successfully, for passage of the "Mongrol Tariff" enacted the following year. While unconnected with coins, his role does show him taking an active part in the passage of legislation that affected his business interests. More to the point, his chairing of the executive committee of the National Bimetallic Association's meeting in Washington in the same era shows his direct involvement with proposed legislation affecting the country's coinage.

We know that the wealthy members of the Association personally underwrote the publication of pamphlets and periodicals that supported a bimetallic coinage. Nicholas Veeder's *Cometallism, Gold, Silver, and Paper Money*, published in 1885, was dedicated to Edwards Pierrepont, one time United States attorney general (1875-1876) and presumably a supporter of the cause. The bimetallic movement sponsored the private production of several interesting "pattern" coins, two of which have been described earlier. These seem to have been made for presentation to important members of the Association and other supporters. It is tempting to think that Liberty may have had a hand in their design. If they were indeed presentation pieces it is almost certain Liberty's position as chairman of the executive committee of the Association would have entitled him to receive a specimen.

In the Norweb library there is a copy of the *Illustrated History of the United States Mint*, the 1893 edition, published by George Evans. The inside cover bears Liberty Holden's bookplate, the Holden arms, and the flyleaf is inscribed "L.E. Holden Cleveland Ohio Nov. 21, 1893." The book was Liberty's own copy. On the first plate of United States cents the obverse of a 1793, noted by Evans as sold for $75, bears a small penciled tick mark. It is impossible to say if the hand was Liberty's, as the Norweb Collection today does not contain a 1793 noted as purchased this early, or one with a purchase price of $75. Whatever the meaning of the mark, the book itself was Liberty's and its tables of silver production, history of the Mint, and other information would have appealed to him if only as to a silver mine owner interested in the largest market for his bullion. It is certainly important that the date of inscription, November 21, 1893, was just 20 days after the Sherman Silver Purchase Act's repeal. It may have been that Liberty was preparing himself for the fight to come, by reading as much as he could about a subject, just as he had done once before. Twenty years earlier he had studied mine engineering and metallurgy to prepare himself for his job as superintendent of the Pittsburgh and Lake Angeline mine.

The repeal of the Sherman Silver Purchase Act in 1893 led to nationwide economic depression. For Liberty Holden, and his fellow silver mine owners, it meant the closure of their biggest market, the United States government. Liberty told Charles Kennedy in 1894 that his mines were then losing $15,000 a month. Editorials in the *Plain Dealer* supporting free silver were stepped up. More practically, Liberty swallowed his Yankee patrician's pride and joined forces with the mixed bag of factions sup-

porting William Jennings Bryan's candidacy in the 1896 election. The "Bryan Money" that made this campaign so memorable for a later generation of collectors would not have escaped Liberty's attention. Most of the satirical Bryan Money pieces were manufactured in Chicago, Columbus, and Fostoria, Ohio, and their major markets were in Ohio and western Pennsylvania.

As far as real collecting of coins is concerned, there are few references available concerning Liberty Holden. His son, Albert, was a major buyer of United States colonial and federal issues, as well as ancient and foreign coins. His interest in coins seems to have started in 1907; we shall learn more about him in the next chapter, where his numismatic activities will be discussed at length.

Albert's copy of the Stickney Sale catalogue (1907) is among the few that have been preserved over the years. It is annotated with his comments and with scattered prices realized penciled in. Against the description of Lot 2, a Massachusetts Bay Willow Tree Shilling said to resemble Crosby 1a.A1 is the annotation, "We have two." According to Emery May Holden Norweb's inventory books, listing all coins in the collection she inherited from her father Albert, the earliest purchase of a Willow Tree Shilling was a specimen from S.H. Chapman's sale of the Major Richard Lambert Collection, held on October 21, 1910. The two pieces referred to by the annotation in the Stickney Sale catalogue must have been sold before Mrs. Norweb drew up her inventory in the mid 1930s. It is impossible to be sure, but the two Willow Tree Shillings referred to in the Stickney catalogue notes may have been Liberty's. They would have fit with his well-known love of all things New England.

The only coin that is certainly known to have belonged to Liberty is a 1799 $10 gold piece, holed for use as a watch fob, which Mrs. Norweb recorded as having received from her grandfather (Liberty). The annotation on the envelope housing it reads "1799 $10. Given to Emery May by Liberty Holden. The coin that started the collection." Whether she meant that this piece was the first coin that Liberty bought; or the first coin she owned; is not known. But, at least we know that Liberty thought enough of it to keep it, and then pass it on to his granddaughter.

The only other reference to Liberty's activity with collecting coins we have so far been able to trace comes to us from John J. Ford, Jr., the well-known numismatist and a personal friend of Mrs. Norweb's during her most active collecting period. John remembers hearing her tell him that her grandfather, Liberty Holden, collected Washington coins and medals. Emery May remembered that the gold skull and crossbones type funerary medal in the collection (Baker-165) was Liberty's.

How much the Norweb Collection owes to Liberty Holden is unknown, at least as far as particular coins is concerned. However, his political activities in support of the resumption of silver coinage and bimetallism; and his fascination with New England and its early history; had a direct influence on his son Albert Fairchild Holden, the founder of the collection inherited by his daughter Emery May Holden Norweb. We must now turn our attention to him.

CHAPTER TWO

Albert F. Holden

Introduction

Albert Holden, "Bert," to those closely associated with him, was a hard man to get to know as a friend, and very few of his associates did. He was, however, a man to be respected, for in each of the three fields he ventured into, the mining business, collecting mineralogical specimens, and collecting coins, he showed indefatigable energy and a quick understanding of their subtleties. He was also a man to be feared, by his business associates, his employees, and even his own family. He was very much the man of his times. The boundless enthusiasm with which he started each of his projects and the unconquerable optimism that told him he would succeed at them were traits he shared with Theodore Roosevelt, his contemporary and the best-known exemplar of this curious mixture of character traits.

Bert emulated his father in many ways, taking over Liberty's mining business, his newspaper, and perhaps even his numismatic hobby. With such a pre-eminent example before him it would have been hard for Bert to do anything else. But, in each endeavor, he surpassed his father's accomplishments, and when he was finished he headed the second largest mining, refining, and smelting trust in the world, whose net earnings for the 12 short years Bert controlled it were $30 million. This substantial figure did not include the earnings from the *Plain Dealer*, which he also owned. The year before his death Bert traveled to Juneau, Alaska, where he supervised the opening of two new gold mines, one of which, the Perseverance Mine, would become one of Alaska's richest. Had he lived longer he could not have avoided history's notice.

Liberty Holden studied mineralogy in his spare time, to give himself enough of an understanding to run his mining business. His son Bert took a formal route and graduated from Harvard in 1888 with a degree in mining engineering, soon turning his study to practical use in the field. He personally inspected many new sites for proposed mines, took samples of the ores he found there, and could tell intuitively if a site would yield enough profit after expenses to make it worth developing. In time he became one of the most competent mining engineers in the country.

He translated his academic training into a hobby as well as a business. As soon as he joined his father's staff in Utah, around 1892, he began collecting mineralogical specimens from his own, as well as neighboring, mines. In time, his collection grew to become one of the finest in the United States, and included specimens from around the world. The Holden Collection and its substantial $500,000 endowment later became the nucleus of Harvard's present holdings.

Bert probably first learned about coins from his father but was not involved in the hobby until after he returned to Cleveland from Salt Lake City around 1904. His earliest recorded purchases were from Henry Chapman's sale of the Stickney Collection, in June 1907, his last from Thomas Elder in 1912. During those five years he acquired fully half of the United States colonial and federal issues now included in the Norweb Collection, a remarkable achievement in so short a time. Like his contemporary, Virgil M. Brand, he purchased entire series of coins in single transactions. His first love was colonial coins, doubtless in homage to his family's close connection with our country's colonial past, and his first and last purchases were colonials. In numismatics, as in business, while he followed in his father's footsteps, his stride was longer and he traveled further.

The Man of Business

Bert Holden was educated at Phillips Exeter Academy and Harvard University. His college papers have been preserved and show him to have been only a middling student, although he was elected into Phi Beta Kappa upon graduation. He excelled at sports, however, and was captain of the Harvard football team for his last two years there. He was noted as a great broken field runner, and the two touchdowns he scored in the classic Harvard-Yale game of 1887 won the day. He played football with the driving will to win he later exhibited in his business dealings. In a speech before the American Collegiate Athletic Association, delivered in 1914, Dean Briggs of Harvard remarked that the early days of football were "years of barbarity and rancor and low cunning." He went on to say that some men emerged from the mass showing ". . .that wonderful capacity for standing fire. Such was the late Bert Holden, whom I can see at this moment dashing down the field with the brilliancy of a cavalry officer leading

— '88 F. B. Eleven. —

A J Cumnock · P.D Trafford · W D. Bancroft · B W Palmer · A.F. Holden · J.A. Sare · L.A. Piper · J.B Markoe ·
· J H Sears · · C A Porter · · A P Butler · · J W Appleton ·
J M Wood · F.C. Woodman ·
· V W Harding · · R.W Boyden ·

Group photograph of the Harvard football team of 1888. Albert Holden, captain of the team, is standing in the center holding a football. Albert was one of Harvard's greatest broken field runners at the time. The touchdowns he scored in the Harvard-Yale game of 1887 won the victory for his school. Although he is pictured here as captain of the 1888 team, he did not play in the Harvard-Yale game of that year, due to an injury.

a desperate charge. In him sincerity was an overmastering force."

Another, different, appraisal is found in the second volume of Stout's monumental *History of Utah*, written while Bert was still living. There, Bert was characterized as "a brutal employer in the mining industry." As we shall see later on, Bert had little sympathy for the workers he employed and less care for the safety of their workplaces. Such an attitude towards labor was not uncommon among industrialists of the late 19th century, and given the context of the times, it would have been unfair to have expected Bert to adopt a more enlightened one. Where Bert differed from his contemporary tycoons was in the depth of his conviction that capital could deal with labor in any way it saw fit, free from outside regulation. When he deliberately risked arrest and imprisonment to test a statute he felt infringed on his rights as an employer he exhibited the spirit Dean Briggs detected in him, but earned the opprobrium of historians such as Stout. The sincerity Dean Briggs mentioned was Bert's certainty in the rightness of his own convictions. Other men may have believed in themselves as strongly; Bert had the energy, and the means, to exercise his beliefs.

When he left Harvard, Bert Holden joined his father in Utah as superintendent of Liberty's mines. By 1892 he had set up his own offices in Salt Lake City on South 2nd Street. The city directory for that year lists him as a mining engineer. Between 1892 and 1899 he continued to manage his father's mines in Bingham Canyon, more and more independently as Liberty's own interests turned towards politics and the management of the *Plain Dealer*. Toward the end of this period Bert was running his father's mining business completely independently, and, as Liberty's personal fortune had been made, it seemed logical to the two to make Bert's control official.

The United States Mining Company

In 1899 Bert organized the United States Mining Company, established to consolidate Liberty's interests which Bert bought from his father, as well as to hold 90% of the shares of the Centennial Eureka Mining Company, which operated mines in Eureka (Juab County), Utah producing gold, silver, and copper. That same year, the new company bought the Old Telegraph Mine from the French Société des Mines d'Argent et Fonderies de Bingham, to whom Liberty had sold it in 1878, probably to avoid attachment. The Old Telegraph was a profitable mine, and its purchase made good business sense, but it was also his father's first independently owned mining property and had been sold under some duress. Its repurchase by his son was as much a matter of family pride as it was a business decision.

At first, the United States Mining Company (U.S.M.) was wholly owned by Bert Holden. Purchase of 90% of the stock of the Centennial Eureka Mining Company cost him $2,250,000. The cost of buying back the Old Telegraph, or what he paid Liberty for the Old Jordan and Galena Mining Company, are not known, but as these mines were by no means played out in 1899 they could not have been sold cheaply. Bert's finances were straitened by these acquisitions, but he apparently hoped to recover by increasing his shipments of ore from the new properties.

Silver, gold, lead, and copper bearing ores were shipped by rail from his mines to his old, five-stack smelter built on the banks of Utah's Jordan River in 1875. There the raw ores were separated into their constituent metals and sold based on their assay weights. They were then shipped to a refinery, where the metals in the ores were concentrated in reduction works. Further refinery processes resulted in ingots of fairly pure metal for sale to end users. When Bert took over the Old Jordan and Galena Mining Company and its outmoded smelter he did not anticipate that its capacity could not accommodate the large increase in the amount of raw ore coming from the new mines. Unable to process ore fast enough, Bert soon found himself in a severe cash-flow crisis, as his operating expenses had increased enormously but his income had not kept pace. Accordingly, he was faced with the need to raise capital quickly to avoid losing everything. To make matters worse, an unexpected decrease in the assay value per ton of the silver and lead ores being extracted from the Old Telegraph and Old Jordan Mines further reduced his income.

Bert Holden solved these difficulties by listing his company on the Boston Stock Exchange in 1901, where he received authorization to issue 860,000 shares of stock at a par value of $25 each, thus capitalizing United States Mining at $21.5 million. By the end of the next year, half the authorized shares had been issued and sold, and with the $10.3 million Bert's financial problems were settled. In addition, he received authorization to float a bond issue worth $800,000, of which slightly more than $300,000 was sold. With this substantial influx of new capital Bert began to build his mining and refining empire.

Between 1901 and 1906 Bert Holden created what was the second largest mining and smelting trust in the world. Like everything else he did, Bert crammed a normal lifetime's effort into only a few years. Years later, in 1920, the authoritative *Mines Handbook* would call his group of companies a serious competitor to the great mining trusts of the day, Amalgamated Copper, Federal Lead, and American Smelting and Refining.

With his financial problems solved Bert began looking to the future, to ensure the health of his business so he would not be faced with the same sort of crisis again. His immediate need was to find a way of handling the increased quantity of ore reaching the old smelter on the Jordan River, the bottleneck in his operations that largely caused his earlier cash flow problem. He decided to build a new and larger one at Bingham Junction, and formed a new company, United States Smelting, to own and operate it. One year later, in 1902, the works were finished, at a cost of $600,000. Seven furnaces were built, which could process 1,500 tons of raw ore per day, more than his mines were shipping and so giving him some room for expansion.

Bert realized that if he could control each step of the mining, smelting, and refining process he could manage the costs each operation entailed. He also determined to increase his own profit margin by selling the finished product. So, in addition to the new smelter, a technologically advanced reducing works was built at the same site, to receive the smelted ore and concentrate the metals contained in it. The reducing works included six furnaces each with a 250 tons per day capacity. Noxious emissions were scrubbed before venting into the air, an advanced technique for the time. The reducing plant cost $700,000, and together with the new smelter employed 600 workers. Although it was employed in the separate reduction facility, pollution control equipment was inexplicably omitted from the new smelter. On complaints from neighboring farmers the plant was closed by court order in October 1907. Bert immediately ordered emission control equipment added to the smelter stacks, and early the

Formal portrait photograph of Albert Fairchild Holden taken in 1910 for publication in the *National Cyclopedia of American Biography,* by James T. White & Co., New York.

next year the plant was allowed to resume processing. The new pollution control apparatus was so innovative that the *Copper Handbook* (predecessor to the *Mines Handbook*, the standard guide to the industry) devoted several pages to a thorough description of it. The temporary closure taught Bert a lesson, and every plant he built thereafter incorporated advanced pollution control equipment.

Bingham Canyon ores contain large amounts of copper. Today, in the late 1980s, the largest open pit copper mine in the world, Kennecott Copper's, incorporates the mines once operated by Liberty and Albert Holden. In the four years from 1908 to 1912 Bert's company shipped over $22 million worth of copper, accounting for nearly 12% of all metal shipped by the company in that period. Lead, refined from the silver bearing galena ore, accounted for over $10 million in shipments in the same period. Bert's United States Mining works could only partially refine these metals, so for the first two years following the capitalization of his company he shipped semirefined lead and copper to refineries in the East.

The Expansion of an Empire: the United States Smelting, Refining, and Mining Company

To remedy the refining deficiency, which prevented control over all phases of his business, in 1903 Bert Holden purchased the DeLamar Copper Refining Company, located in Chrome, New Jersey. This company was founded by Joseph R. DeLamar, a merchant captain on the New York to Bermuda run, who owned mines in Georgia in the East, and Colorado, Idaho, and elsewhere in the West. In 1895 Captain DeLamar took options on claims in Bingham Canyon, which showed vast reserves of copper, but when called upon to exercise them, he shied away as he felt the purchase price was too high. The options were then picked up by a company formed to exploit the reserves, Utah Copper Company. Later, Utah Copper was sold, forming today's Kennecott Copper Company.

The new acquisition was renamed the United States Metals Refining Company, offered on the Boston Exchange, and capitalized at $3.1 million. Ownership was held jointly by United States Mining, Bert's company, and Aron Hirsch und Sohn of Halberstadt, Germany, who were Bert's overseas sales agents. U.S.M. held 75% of the stock.

United States Metals operated a copper refinery in New Jersey and a lead refinery in Grasselli, Indiana. The works were completely renovated from 1903 to 1906, with a further upgrade to increase monthly capacities effected in 1911. Blister copper (i.e., partially refined ingots) from all Bert's mines was shipped to the New Jersey plant for refining into pure copper. The electrolytic furnaces there could process 18,000 tons of blister copper per month, the excess capacity being devoted to refining other customers' material. Trace gold and silver left over in the copper from the smelting and reducing plants in Utah were extracted in special cupel furnaces. The lead refinery plant in Indiana included the first electrolytic refinery for lead erected in the United States and could process 2,000 tons per month. United States Metals employed 875 workers in its two plants.

With new smelters, reducing works, and his own copper and lead refineries, Bert Holden was more than able to process all the raw ore his mines in Utah were capable of extracting. In addition to processing other customers' products, Bert began looking around for additional mining properties he could buy. His academic training at Harvard came in handy.

Bert personally inspected several mining sites up for sale, walking the underground galleries and surveying the surface features. On at least one occasion he took his young daughter, Emery May, underground with him. She remembered being hoisted onto her father's shoulders, handed a miner's pick, and being told to knock off an ore sample from the ceiling of a gallery which was too high for Bert to reach unaided. After some searching, in Utah, Nevada, and California, Bert decided on his next property, the Mammoth Copper Mining Company.

Bert financed the purchase by issuing 60,000 shares of United States Mining Company stock at $25 par value each. The Mammoth site incorporated 1,400 mountainous acres located on Little Backbone Creek near the small town of Kennett (in Shasta County, California). In 1903, the year Bert bought it, the company employed 50 men in the copper mines. Nine years later 1,200 men worked the mines. Access to the underground deposits was gained through shafts started from the tops of the high hills on the site. Ore was brought to the surface in iron carts pulled up the steep galleries by mule and man power. From the mine openings the raw ore was carried on a three-mile long aerial tramway downhill to a smelter Bert erected as soon as he bought Mammoth. The tramway moved 1,600 tons of ore daily. Later, in 1906, a ground-based tramway was added paralleling the aerial one, increasing the flow of ore to the smelter below. From the smelter the tramway carried the blister copper ingots to a spur line of the Northern Pacific Railroad for shipment to Bert's New Jersey refinery.

The first smelter on the site, built in 1903, processed 750 tons of copper-bearing ore each day, but it could not keep up with the amounts extracted from the mines on site. It was enlarged in 1906, at a cost of $500,000, to handle 1,000 tons daily, but when the smelter went on line it was found it could process 1,800 tons per day. When the new smelter started up, its five furnaces made it the second largest in the state of California. Its pollution control equipment, installed at a cost of $250,000 in 1910, was as advanced as the system Bert had earlier built for his Bingham Canyon smelter—Bert had learned his lesson well. Although Mammoth paid local farmers $50 to $100 yearly for "smoke easements," as a legal precaution against complaints, California courts found the emission controls adequate and its smelter was the only one allowed to operate in the state. The Mammoth mines were the largest producers of copper in California until 1920; by then, reserves were almost exhausted, but the property had served its purpose.

The only mining company he bought that did not realize the potential he saw in it was the Eureka-Richmond Mining Company. The Eureka Consolidated Mining Company was one of Nevada's oldest, originally formed in 1869 to mine silver. Bert bought the company in 1905, merged it with the smaller Richmond Mining Company, and capitalized the new company on the Boston Exchange at $3.6 million. The chief mines were located in Eureka, Nevada, at the end of a narrow and twisting spur line of the Eureka and Palisade Railroad (E & P) that wound through the mountains. The other end of the E & P was connected with the Southern Pacific and Western Pacific railroads. The mines produced silver for Bert's Utah smelters until 1910. In that year the E & P was washed out in a spring flood. After

the line was rebuilt the owners raised their freight charges, which made the low-grade silver ore the mine extracted unprofitable to ship. Expecting an eventual reduction in freight costs, Bert retained ownership of the mine, but the works remained idle for many years afterward.

Overseas Expansion

Much as he liked to explore potential new mining sites Bert Holden could not afford to stay in the field for very long at any one time, or his larger business interests would go unsupervised. Consequently, he formed the American Exploration Company in 1906, capitalized at $500,000. The company was charged not only with exploring for possible new mining sites, but also with running its own, small, gold mines in New and Old Mexico. The surveying company was immediately successful, and on its findings Bert expanded his interests outside his country's national borders.

In 1906 Bert was advised that a Mexican company, the Compania de Real del Monte y Pachuca, could be bought. This was a famous mining operation, as the Real del Monte was the oldest silver mine in Mexico, first opened by the Spaniards in 1553. Bert bought the company (the purchase price has not been preserved), and under his management production of silver and gold bullion tripled in three years. He built cyanide plants at the Real del Monte and Pachuca mines, to concentrate the ores. The former plant processed 1,000 tons per day, while the latter could handle 1,800 tons daily. The silver and gold bullion was exported to the United States. The company was located in Hidalgo State. During the 1916 Revolution in northern Mexico, Pancho Villa is said personally to have ordered his forces to preserve the properties intact, forbidding looting or damage on the threat of execution. General Villa is further said to have met, and befriended, Bert Holden before the latter's death, and the memory of their friendship saved Bert's investment later. Most other North American owned mines in the northern Mexican states were expropriated and plundered by the various armies in the field in 1916.

Further north, Bert's surveying company reported on several promising gold mines operating in Juneau, Alaska, owned by the Alaska Gold Mines Company. In June 1912 Bert traveled to Juneau with his friend Daniel Jackling aboard Jackling's million-dollar steam yacht *Cyprus*. Jackling was connected with the famous Mercur Mine in Utah and had the reputation of favoring fast boats and faster women. When the mining community looked for someone to represent them at Utah's statehood admission ceremonies in 1896 Bert was chosen to attend rather than Jackling, who was felt to be too fond of the bottle and likely to be an embarrassment.

Bert Holden did not lose any time in Juneau. During the Alaskan summer months he, Jackling, and his daughter Emery May tramped through the mining sites owned by the Alaska Gold Mines Company, surveying the terrain and photographing mines in which they were interested. Bert was an amateur photographer, owned a collection of new and old cameras, and liked taking pictures. One mine in particular, the Perseverance, seemed to offer the best potential, and images of it were prominently mounted in Bert's photo album.

Whether Bert, or his successors, bought the Perseverance is unclear from the few documents we have seen. A neighboring mine, the Ebner, is listed in the 1920 edition of the *Mines Handbook* as being among the properties owned by the holding company founded years earlier by Bert.

When Bert came back from Alaska toward the end of 1912 he was suffering from cancer. By December of that year he was able to go to his office only every other day, and then only to dictate some letters to his secretary. He wrote his old mentor, Professor Wolff of Harvard's Department of Mineralogy, that he was forced to take things very slowly now. When the new year opened he was confined to his bed, and five months later he was dead. During his decline he conducted very little business and his affairs, along with his companies, became disorganized. The lack of his leadership, and the confusion that resulted from it, account for the gaps in the historical record from this time.

Taking all the evidence that is available, the following summarizes the Holden mining empire. For the entire period Liberty and his son Bert were active in the mining and refining business, 1876 through 1912, their companies shipped metals whose total worth was nearly $236 million. The total net earnings on these shipments may have been as high as $58 million ($20 million of this figure is documented). Their enterprises today would earn them a place in the ranks of the most successful businessmen. In their own times they were accounted among the more important industrialists of the nation. It is surprising that neither Liberty nor his son Albert are well known among historians of American business.

Holden vs. Hardy (1898)

Like his father before him, Albert Holden seemed to attract lawsuits. Like his father, Bert was a sharp and hard businessman who had little time for legal niceties when he had set his mind on getting something he wanted. Some legal troubles that plagued the family seemed never to go away. In 1905 ownership of the Old Telegraph Mine was once again in dispute, perhaps brought by the heirs of one of the original owners. The case seems to have been settled in Albert's favor; it may never have come to trial. Two years later, Bert's ownership of the Kempton Lode in Nevada was tested before the United States Supreme Court in *Wall vs. U.S. Mining Company*. Bert won this contest, also. For Bert, and for the history of labor, his most important legal test had come earlier.

The March 25, 1896 issue of the *Deseret News* stated that Albert Holden was the secretary of a state board holding hearings on proposed legislation then before Utah state representatives. The legislation limited the working day for all laborers in mines, smelters, refineries, and reducing plants to a maximum of eight hours. The rationale for the new limit was that the mining and allied industries were particularly hazardous to the health of workers employed in them. The foundation for the proposed law rested on the powers granted states by the federal Constitution to make laws governing the safety of their inhabitants, called the "police power."

Bert was strongly opposed to the proposed law. As a citizen, he felt that the law infringed upon his right to make a free contract with an employee, and abrogated the employee's right to work as many hours each day as he wanted. As a mine owner and employer, Bert argued that the reduction in hours would

Early American Issues

1785 INIMICA TYRANNIS AMERICANA copper, CONFEDERATIO reverse, stars in small circle

1786 E PLURIBUS UNUM eagle copper muling with 1785 CONFEDERATIO copper reverse, stars in small circle

GEN. WASHINGTON obverse combined with 1785 CONFEDERATIO reverse, stars in large circle

1787 EXCELSIOR copper, large eagle on reverse, arrows and branch transposed

1787 EXCELSIOR copper, eagle on globe facing right, reverse with small eagle

GEORGIVS REX counterfeit British halfpenny obverse muled with 1785 IMMUNE COLUMBIA reverse

1795 IMMUNE COLUMBIA. CONSTELLATIO reverse with pointed rays and extra star in reverse

1785 IMMUNE COLUMBIA. CONSTELATIO misspelling, with blunt rays

THE ISSUES shown on this page are among the most enigmatic in the American series. The INIMICA TYRANNIS AMERICANA obverse combination with the CONFEDERATIO reverse, with stars in small circle, and the related muling showing an eagle obverse may have been made from dies prepared by George Wyon in Birmingham, England. The GEN. WASHINGTON obverse die was muled with several reverse dies, including CONFEDERATIO with stars in large circle, as shown here, a well-worn specimen. The two 1787 EXCELSIOR coppers bear legends relating to New York State, although it is not known under what authority they may have been issued. Next follows a crudely cut GEORGIVS III REX obverse die for a counterfeit British halfpenny, combined with the 1785 IMMUNE COLUMBIA. Pieces with two different styles of NOVA CONSTELLATIO reverse, one with the misspelling CONSTELATIO, were struck by unknown parties, possibly at Machin's Mills.

OVERLEAF: View of the Perseverance Mine reducing works in Alaska. Although undated, this photograph was found in Albert Holden's album of pictures taken during his trip to Alaska in the summer of 1912.

Commercial photograph found in Albert Holden's album of pictures taken during his 1912 Alaska business trip. This photograph, titled "View From Thane's House" shows Juneau, Alaska as it appeared several years earlier in 1909.

cost him, and other owners, 20% of their profits, resulting in a like increase in the selling prices of their goods.

Despite Bert's arguments, and organized opposition from the mining lobby in Salt Lake City, the legislation was passed and became law on March 30, 1896.

Believing the law to be unfair and an abrogation of his rights under the Fourteenth Amendment, Bert deliberately set out to test the constitutionality of the new statute. Accordingly, he hired one John Anderson to work 10 hours a day in the Old Jordan Mine and one William Hooley to work 12 hours a day in the reducing mill attached to the mine.

On June 20, 1896 complaint was made to a local justice of the peace that Bert Holden was in violation of the law by employing Anderson and Hooley for longer periods per day than allowed by the new statute. He was ordered to desist, but refused. The justice thereupon issued a writ for Bert's arrest, which was served by Sheriff Hardy, and Bert was taken before the justice on a charge of misdemeanor. Bert argued that the law was unconstitutional as it deprived him of his property without due process and infringed upon his rights to make contracts freely. The justice was not impressed with these pleadings, as Bert must have known he would not be, and remanded him to Sheriff Hardy's custody, fined him $50 plus $7 costs, and ordered his imprisonment in the town jail for 50 days (clearly, a dollar a day) or until the fine and costs had been paid.

Bert's lawyers sued out two writs of *habeas corpus* from the Utah Supreme Court for his release and discharge of the fine, again claiming the law that imprisoned him was unconstitutional, but the court refused his pleas. His applications denied, Bert sued writs of error from the United States Supreme Court, assigning unconstitutionality of the state law as his basis.

The case was argued before the U.S. Supreme Court on October 21, 1897; and decided on February 28, 1898. Based as it was largely upon the recently ratified Fourteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which had not been exhaustively examined by the Court previously, Bert's case represented the first detailed rehearsal of case law arising under the Fourteenth Amendment carried out by the Court. In writing their opinion, which was 7 to 2 against Bert, the Court declared two legal principles that have since become fundamental to the development of law in the United States.

In the first place, the Court held that limitations on the working day imposed by state legislatures are proper statements of the responsibility states have for ensuring the common good and health of their citizens, and therefore are legal exercises of the police power granted states by the Constitution. The Court's opinion thus allowed a wider interpretation of the states' police power than before, and specifically declared constitutional its exercise to set the length of the working day in industries held to be particularly hazardous to the health of employees. *Holden vs. Hardy* thus became a landmark decision in the history of labor relations in the United States, serving as an important foundation for state regulation of the workplace. The eight-hour day, 40-hour week most employees take for granted today was a hard-won battle. This case was one of the bigger steps on the road to labor's victory.

The second principle enunciated by the Court in its decision was more fundamental to the later development of law in our country. In examining the cases brought before them which arose from applications of the Fourteenth Amendment, the Court held that, in its application, law should be flexible enough to recognize that public needs and relationships can change over time. The Fourteenth Amendment itself could be seen as an application of this principle, in that restrictions once placed on the conduct of a class of persons were, by its passage, removed when they were held to be iniquitous by a later generation. Further, the Court held that there existed particular classes of persons, particularly those engaged in hazardous or unhealthy occupations, who required additional protection under the Constitution.

Essentially, then, in their decision the Court upheld what has later been termed a "loose constructionist" interpretation of the Constitution, and *Holden vs. Hardy* was a very liberal reading of the country's fundamental legal document. In broad view, the Court's intention was to allow lower federal and state courts to apply a generous reading of the Fourteenth Amendment to cases arising from it; and to extend its protection beyond a literal reading of its wording to include citizens in particular need of additional remedy at law.

A detailed discussion of the legal points raised by the parties to the case will be found accompanying this text.

The Collector's Mind

We mentioned in our introduction to this chapter that no correspondence regarding Bert Holden's coin collection can be found today. The reason for this lack is easily understood. After his death, in May 1913, his estate and family were cared for by a brother and sister while the children were still minors. Three years later, his daughter Emery May Holden, born in 1896, left the United States, and, except for a few brief stays, did not return permanently until after 1948 when her husband, R. Henry Norweb, Sr., retired from diplomatic service. In the intervening years Bert's correspondence files became misplaced or were dispersed.

We have searched for copies of his correspondence that may have been kept by the Chapmans, Lyman Low, Thomas Elder, and other coin dealers with whom Bert had business relationships. We have also looked for correspondence from such numismatic professionals to Bert. Unfortunately for the history of our hobby, apparently none of these early dealers' correspondence files has survived the years. Consequently, we cannot describe for our readers details of transactions from Bert's time, as we have for Emery May Norweb in a later chapter of this book.

However, academic institutions have long memories, none longer than Harvard's. Bert's correspondence with Professor J.E. Wolff of the Mineralogy Department has been preserved, and with the kind permission of Mr. Carl Francis, curator of the Mineralogy Collection, we have examined Bert's letters and other papers conserved at Harvard. The correspondence, naturally, concerns Bert's mineral collecting activities, dating from 1893 through 1912. A careful reading of his letters, however, shows how Bert collected, what he thought was important in his specimens, and how he got along with dealers and other collectors. Collecting habits, in their broadest outlines, are largely common to all hobbies. Given what we know about Bert's coin collection, it is apparent that his numismatic collecting habits were similar to his mineralogical collecting ones and may have been formed by them. In fact, if we read his letters about minerals and substitute the word "coin" for "mineral," the letters could

The arguments pro Bert's position have been published in *169 U.S. 366*. Written with a care for the precision of meaning that the English language is capable of, they are very elegant, concisely worded statements of position. The Court's decision is more relaxed in tone, as would be expected, and betrays a wry sense of humor when rehearsing one of Bert's less persuasive arguments.

Bert Holden argued that the state's police power could regulate the conditions of all kinds of contracts only when those conditions could be shown to affect the general well-being of the public. Regulation of contracts governing activities of specific classes of persons was, therefore, outside the competence of the state's police power. Should the police power be held to extend into the exercise of a citizen's contractual rights, where such contracts were between individuals and not a matter of concern to the general well-being of the state, then the police power would not be bounded and the states could find it in their power to regulate all aspects of business and employment and all matters of contract as they willed. Constitutionally, the Fourteenth Amendment secured all citizens the right "to pursue unmolested a lawful employment in a lawful manner," and this had been denied to Bert by the State of Utah.

The key to Bert's argument can be found in the following extract from it:

> It is, therefore, not within the power of the legislature to prevent persons who are *sui generis*, and otherwise perfectly competent to contract, from entering into employment and voluntarily making contracts in relation thereto merely because the employment in which they are to engage, although perfectly legal and proper in itself, may be considered by the legislature to be dangerous or injurious to the health of the employee; and if such right to contract cannot be prevented, it certainly cannot be restricted by the legislature to suit its own ideas of the ability of the employee to stand the physical and mental strain incident to the work. The character of the work to be performed, the number of hours a day in which the employee shall work, and the amount of compensation to be paid therefore are purely and necessarily personal matters between the parties to the contract, and are regulated by the terms thereof and by the will of the employer, influenced by considerations as to the requirements of his business and the condition of the market for his products, etc., and it is clear, as it seems to us, that so long as the employment does not interfere with the rights or health of others, the legislature cannot prevent it or regulate any of its terms.

As we can see, the basis of Bert's argument was that the state had no power to regulate the terms of contracts entered into by private parties as employers and employees where the activities engaged upon did not affect the health or well-being of the general public. It assumed that market conditions were the governing factors in the length of the working day: a strong market might call for longer days to produce more, while a weak one might see reduced hours and layoffs. Further, the argument assumed an equality of status and power to contract freely in both employer and employee. Constitutionally, the argument was a strict definition one, holding there should be no extension of state authority over common business practices not already regulated by law.

The Court decided 7-2 against Bert, its opinion being written by Mr. Justice Brown (Associate Justice 1890-1906). Bert had sued his writs of error on the grounds of denial of due process of justice guaranteed by the 14th Amendment. After reviewing recent applications of the amendment in cases before the Court, Justice Brown found that due process of the law was due process according to the law of the land. This process was regulated by the various laws of the states. Therefore, the state had the power to define what constituted due process, in one way by legislation. In his opinion, Mr. Justice Brown wrote:

> An examination of both these classes of cases under the 14th Amendment [those in which the state discriminated against a particular class of persons and those in which the state altered customary due process by legislation] will demonstrate that, in passing upon the validity of state legislation under that amendment, this court has not failed to recognize the fact that the law is, to a certain extent, a progressive science; that in some of the States methods of procedure, which at the time the Constitution was adopted were deemed essential to the protection and safety of the people, or to the liberty of the citizen, have been found to be no longer necessary; that the restrictions which had formerly been laid upon the conduct of individuals, or on classes of individuals, had proved detrimental to their interests; while, upon the other hand, certain other classes of persons, particularly those engaged in dangerous or unhealthful employments, have been found to be in need of additional protection.

Justice Brown held that due process was what the state said it was, subject always to the overreaching demands of the U.S. Constitution. Further, he wrote that law was not a monistic or unchanging institution, but reacted to and was molded by the changing conditions of society, recognizing new needs as they arose. If it were held, for example, that it were a valid exercise of the state's police power to call for fire escapes in hotels or air vents in deep mines, which applied only to specific classes of persons or specific situations seen to need remedy, then the police power could validly be exercised when it regulated occupations deemed hazardous to the health of workers engaged in them.

The Court took a liberal stand on a social issue in their decision, when they extended the protection of the 14th Amendment to miners:

> While the general experience of mankind may justify us in believing that men may engage in ordinary employ-

ments more than eight hours per day without injury to their health, it does not follow that labor for the same length of time is innocuous when carried on beneath the surface of the earth, where the operative is deprived of fresh air and sunlight, and is frequently subjected to foul atmosphere and a very high temperature, or to the influence of noxious gases, generated by the processes of refining or milling.

In considering Bert's argument that a contract for employment entered into by an employer and an employee was a free and voluntary one, not subject to regulation by the state, Mr. Justice Brown agreed with the decision of the Utah Supreme Court, holding:

> The legislature has also recognized the fact, which the experience of legislators in many States has corroborated, that the proprietors of these establishments and their operatives do not stand upon an equality, and that their interests are, to a certain extent, conflicting. The former naturally desire to obtain as much labor as possible from their employees, while the latter are often induced by the fear of discharge to conform to regulations which their judgement, fairly exercised, would pronounce to be detrimental to their health or strength. In other words, the proprietors lay down the rules and the laborers are practically constrained to obey them. In such cases self interest is often an unsafe guide, and the legislature may properly interpose its authority.

The Court interjected an unexpected note of wry humor in their decision at this point, when they rejected a naive assertion by Bert's attorneys that could not stand notice even in 1897:

> It may not be improper to suggest in this connection that although the prosecution in this case was against the employer of labor, who apparently under the statute is the only one liable, his defense is not so much that his right to contract has been infringed upon, but that the act works a peculiar hardship to his employees, whose right to labor as long as they please is alleged to be thereby violated. The argument would certainly come with better grace and greater cogency from the latter class.

It is unusual for the Court, at any time, to rebuke a party appearing before them, so we may assume that the perceived speciousness of this argument, and indeed, Bert's entire case, was grosser than the Court was accustomed to hearing.

just as well describe his coin collection as his mineral collection.

On March 14, 1896 Bert wrote to Wolff:

> I have just returned from a three days collecting trip to the famous Tintic district in Juab Co. I had a good time though not a very successful one from a collecting point of view.
>
> Mineralogy is my recreation—perhaps a little more than recreation as I oftimes fear I let it interfere with business. They do say out here that Mr. Bixby [another collector in Utah] and myself would go further to get a good mineral specimen than we would to see a good mine.

Albert's trip was not so unsuccessful as he first thought. He writes to Wolff two days later:

> My trip to Tintic that I wrote you about the other day turned out more satisfactory than I thought at the time. On examining my plunder I found I had one fine specimen 3 crystals on it of linarite. As far as any of us out here know these are the first reported from Tintic. Now that we know they are there we will find more.
>
> I have three collections, only one of which I am pressing. I have rocks—with sections—that is pure business and I only collect as business calls for it. I have an economic collection I make only by myself. I have some rare ores, one or two of which I shall include in your box. The collection I am most interested in is straight minerals *crystallized*, if possible. I hope to perfect that some day and give it to Harvard. However, my enthusiasm may wane, but I think not.

Later on, in July 1908, Bert wrote Wolff concerning donating his collection to Harvard. Clearly, he had not lost his enthusiasm, nor his intention of donating the collection to his old school:

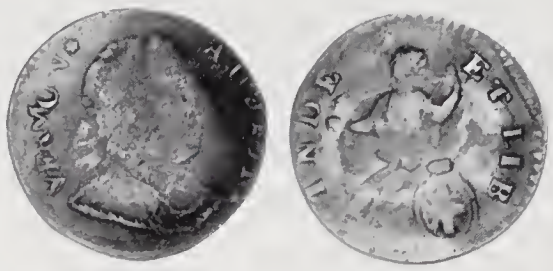
> That reminds me that I never answered your letter concerning my suggestion of giving my collection to Harvard now. I suppose I ought to turn it over but somehow I have a feeling that on the whole, both Harvard and I are better off for my not doing so. If I should give it to you I should probably lose all interest in further collection. My not giving it to you costs from one to two thousand a year that I spend in furthering my hobby.

From his letters it is plain Bert collected his specimens with a careful eye to condition, as well as rarity. As early as 1896 he had become sophisticated enough to keep population and condition census records (i.e., number of specimens that survive and the 10 best in terms of condition) on rare specimens. In a letter dated June 3 of that year, Bert wrote Wolff that a specimen he had just acquired was only the sixth one known. On October 7 of the same year he wrote Wolff, saying that the example of orpiment he had just sent to Harvard was the second finest known, his own being the finest, and that no dealer had anything to match those two. Later, on January 14, 1897, Bert wrote that the specimen of martite he wanted to buy was the finest known, but the owner, Mr. Bixby, wanted too much for it. Bert enlisted the help of Clarence Bement in negotiating a reduction

State Copper Coins

1785 Vermont copper, Ryder-5. A contemporary counterfeit, this issue is crudely executed. Only a few specimens are known to exist today.

1788 Vermont. Ryder-26. This is one of the scarcer die varieties in the series.



1788 Vermont. Ryder-30. One of the crudest of all Vermont coppers, the obverse is from a bungled die showing irregularly spaced letters. The coinage location is believed to have been Machin's Mills in Newburgh, New York.

1786 IMMUNIS COLUMBIA. Obverse die combined with Maris' Reverse C from the New Jersey series, a rare muling.

1786 New Jersey copper with date under plough beam, a classic rarity in the series.

1786 New Jersey copper with date in the regular position.

1787 Connecticut copper, Miller 1.4-WW, the only variety in the series with the figure on the reverse facing to the right. Just two specimens are believed to be known.

1788 Massachusetts half cent, Ryder 1-A. Representative of copper coinage of 1787 and 1788.

1787 Massachusetts cent, Ryder 8-G, shows evidence of extensive circulation in its day and several stray countermarks. Massachusetts copper cents were made with the dates 1787 and 1788.

DURING THE LATE 1780s several states authorized or produced their own copper coinage. Vermont, an independent entity at the time (it did not join the Union until 1791), authorized an issue of copper coins. The early ones were produced by Reuben Harmon, Jr., in Rupert, Vermont. Later pieces were made at Machin's Mills, a private enterprise on the shore of Orange Pond near Newburgh, New York. Vermont coppers bear dates from 1785 through 1788. Forty different die varieties are known.

New Jersey coppers, bearing dates from 1786 to 1788, were struck by several individuals. The general motif is similar on all regular pieces and bears on the obverse a horse head and plough and on the reverse a shield. A rare variant has the date 1786 under the plough beam instead of near the rim.

Connecticut copper coins were manufactured privately under the authority of the state and bear dates from 1785 through 1788. Most bear a male portrait on the obverse and a seated figure on the reverse. Shown on this page is an exceedingly rare variation, with the seated figure on the reverse facing to the right rather than the usual left. Over 300 different die varieties of Connecticut coppers are known today.

Massachusetts decided to operate its own mint, and in a state-owned facility half cents and cents dated 1787 and 1788 were produced. An analysis of the operations was conducted, and it was discovered that each piece cost over twice face value to produce, so the venture was soon discontinued.

Copper coins were made by various other individuals and entities as well, most notably at Machin's Mills, a private enterprise conducted by Thomas Machin, who earlier served in the Revolutionary War. He set up a mint near Newburgh, New York, which manufactured counterfeit British halfpennies as well as unauthorized imitations of various state coinages, including Connecticut and New Jersey. Vermont pieces were also made there, but under special arrangement with Reuben Harmon, Jr., who held the franchise.

Today, copper coins of the 1785-1788 era are avidly collected by numismatists. The Norweb Collection contains a wide variety of issues ranging from scarce to exceedingly rare.

in price, which was $35. Bert's close relationship with Bement continued for many years.

In 1912 Bert was offered the entire Hancock Collection for purchase. He wrote Dr. Charles Palache of Harvard on January 12:

> Thank you for your letter which reached me yesterday. On the strength of it, I took the liberty of writing Mr. Bement concerning Hancock's collection, offering to take it at his appraised value. It is not often I would do this, but knowing Mr. Bement's reputation for reasonable liberality and absolute fairness, I am very willing to take the chances.

Clarence Bement's is a name familiar to numismatic historians. In addition to being recognized for his interest in minerals (Bert purchased Bement's 2,000-specimen collection in 1912), Bement was a well-known collector of coins. His collection, which included outstanding large cents, a 1793 Washington peace medal, and a 1786 date under plow beam New Jersey copper, was sold by Henry Chapman on May 29, 1916; foreign coins were auctioned by Henry Chapman in 1918, and Thomas Elder sold the balance of Bement's collection in 1923. Bement's particular numismatic specialty was early American cents, and in the literature of that field his name is still recalled with frequency.

Bement may have encouraged Bert Holden to begin collecting coins in a serious way. There were other crossovers between the mineralogical and coin collecting hobbies at this time. Andrew C. Zabriskie, for example, an American Numismatic Association president and owner of one of the finest collections ever assembled, a holding particularly rich in western numismatic Americana, was a graduate of Columbia University's School of Mines. The Chapman brothers, leading coin auctioneers, sold the A. Dohrmann Collection of minerals on December 13, 1886; the catalogue, with nine plates, is now scarce. R.E. Holmes, a Montrose, Nebraska mineral dealer, was a regular advertiser in B. Max Mehl's *Numismatic Monthly* in 1908-1909. Bert's obituary, later published in *The Numismatist*, listed his collecting interests as coins and minerals. The crossovers are natural to the two hobbies. Both involve the close scrutiny of small objects, both are subject to orderly classification, both house their specimens in cabinets, and so on. This is especially true of crystallography, Bert's specialty in the field of mineralogy.

Like any wise collector, whatever his hobby, Bert was very cautious when beginning a relationship with a professional dealer. He always requested references first, and his initial business with an untested dealer was always small in value. For example, he wrote Professor Wolff early in 1896:

> Do you know a mineral dealer named N.L. Wilson? His place of business is 170 Tremont St., Boston.
>
> The reason I am asking is that he wants to exchange with me. If he is reliable I am willing to try him with a lot. If he is not reliable I would rather let him severely alone. I have a lot of poor, very poor [illegible] and tarosite that I can perhaps get him to take in exchange. These specimens show few or no crystals, merely coatings. They are specimens that I would not have in my cabinet, but I suppose a dealer could sell them for $10 to $15 apiece.

Bert Holden began collecting minerals seriously in 1896, although he had started casually earlier, soon after joining his father in Utah. By early 1896, just a few months after his serious collecting began, his name was known as a new collector to most mineral dealers. In May of that year he wrote Wolff that "Englishe and Foote, [two independent dealers in valuable mineral specimens] as well as the other dealers, are very anxious to exchange with me." He asked Wolff's opinion of the value of the mineral specimens he had already sent to Harvard, going on to say that Englishe in particular was pressing him for specimens, implying that at this early date Bert was not experienced enough to determine the prices he should ask. He wrote, "As I take my pay in minerals I want to know where to meet him. He is very anxious for me to contract the specimen output of our mines. I am very willing to contract with him if I get what I want."

Bert's relationships with the dealers Englishe and Foote turned out to be mixed ones. Englishe later became one of Bert's best sources for new material, as well as an outlet for Bert's duplicates. Foote, on the other hand, received mixed reviews in Bert's correspondence.

In May 1896 Bert asked Professor Wolff if a price of $500 was too high for some 400 good specimens of orpiment, and Wolff replied that it was fair. Bert offered the consignment to Foote at this price, but in June wrote Wolff, "Foote wants all my orpiments at $500. I rather expect he will try to beat me down in the price when they are in his hands. However, I am willing to send them to him. If he don't [sic] want them there are a dozen others that do."

Foote already owed Bert money on a different consignment, so he did not stand high in Bert's estimation. In July Bert wrote Wolff, "By the way, I have had a very disagreeable time with Foote. I sent him 495 specimens for $500 exchange. He tried to beat me down on the price and Englishe took the lot. Then Foote tried to *steal* some of the specimens. I fear he succeeded, as I sent 8 or 10 large specimens that could have been cut up and no one but myself have been the wiser." Bert's later correspondence strongly suggests he threatened to sue Foote; the outcome of the dispute was settled in Bert's favor.

The mineralogical equivalent to our later *Guide Book of U.S. Coins* was E.S. Dana's *The System of Mineralogy*; Bert used the 6th edition (1892). Dana listed 824 "types" of minerals. According to notes prepared by Carl Francis, curator of Harvard's mineralogical collection, in 1910 and 1911 Bert purchased 506 of the 824 types, or 60%! Bert's 1912 want list, which he had printed and distributed to dealers and museums around the world, listed only 115 "types" still unrepresented in his collection or in need of upgrading. In other words, by that time Bert collected fully 85% of all the then recognized mineral "types" listed in the standard handbook, an astonishing feat for any collector. This energetic enthusiasm was typical of the man, however, and carried over into his coin collecting hobby, as well. Half of the United States coins in the Norweb Collection were purchased by Bert Holden from 1907 to 1912, the majority being collected in the two years from September 1908 to October 1910.

Like many a past and present collector, Bert relied heavily on agents, men he trusted who knew his wants and enough of the business to buy for him at reasonable prices. Bert's agents for mineralogical specimens were located worldwide.

The collecting world then, as now, was a small one, and we keep finding interesting crossovers between hobbies. In October 1910 Bert met Mr. R.W. Bull in the Magdalena district of New

1787 Immunis Columbia Copper

THE ORIGIN of the 1787 IMMUNIS COLUMBIA copper is not known. The dies may have been the work of James F. Atlee, who at one time engraved dies used for Connecticut, New Jersey, and Machin's Mills coppers of the era. The obverse depicts the figure of Columbia holding the Scales of Justice, and seated on a globe. The inscription IMMUNIS COLUMBIA refers to Columbia (America) being immune from the cares and problems of Europe. The reverse bears a heraldic eagle holding a branch and arrows. Above is an early use of the motto E PLURIBUS UNUM. A related but somewhat differently styled motif was used on the IMMUNE COLUMBIA pieces dated 1785.

Mexico. Bull was an electrical engineer, a Harvard man also (Class of 1896) and younger than Bert. They later became friendly, as they shared an interest in football, especially Harvard football. Bert pursuaded Bull to send mineral specimens to Professor Wolff.

At the time Bert first met him, Bull was assistant manager of the Tri-Bullion Smelting and Development Company, located at Kelly, New Mexico, with an additional address at 2 Rector Street, New York City (possibly just a postal or legal address). Well read collectors of territorial coins and related numismatic material will recognize the Tri-Bullion name immediately. A gold ingot sold as Lot 233 in the Henry H. Clifford Sale (March 1982), bears on one side Tri-Bullion's name and its gold weight and fineness; on the other is its dollar value (fineness of .999 yielding a value of $10) and the initials U.S.M.

Besides paying for his agents in the field, who included Bull in New Mexico and mining engineers in Perth (Ontario, Canada), Bert financed entire expeditions consisting of mineralogists, assistants, pack mules, and equipment needed for a long stay in the field. Toward the end of his life these became large and elaborate affairs, requiring long planning and careful choice of personnel. In June 1912 Bert outfitted an expedition headed by Harvard's Dr. Charles Palache.

On the 14th of the month Bert wrote Palache:

> I regret that I did not get a chance to write you yesterday about your summer work. Whatever you want to do, or wherever you wish to go, will be perfectly agreeable to me.
>
> I enclose ten one-hundred dollar checks on the First National Bank of Boston, made to your order. Use whatever of this amount is necessary for your collecting trips, and return me the balance, if any, at the opening of the college year.
>
> As I told you the other day, if you find any good stuff that runs up into considerable money get an option on it if you can, and let me know. I hope you realize that it is results I am after, and I am not desirous of saving a little money by wasting a good deal of time.
>
> I suggest that whenever you can you get such men as are necessary and do up any or all localities that you visit in the quickest time possible.

Bert's importance to Harvard's mineralogy collection had an unexpected result, and one which crowned his work in the collecting field. Among the minerals Bert collected from the famous Franklin Furnace, New Jersey site was one he thought was leucophoenicite. As Dr. Palache later related, he and Bert were going through the collection, which was kept in mahogany cabinets in Bert's Cleveland home, when Dr. Palache noticed the specimen from New Jersey. It occured to him that the piece was misattributed. Later, while studying it, Dr. Palache determined that the specimen was a previously unknown mineral. Dr. Palache named the new mineral holdenite; there are today just two specimens known, according to the curator of the Harvard mineral collection.

In November 1912, upon return from his trip to Alaska with Daniel Jackling to inspect potential mine sites, Bert began drawing up the instrument of donation that left his collection and a substantial sum for its maintenance to Harvard University. Because of the extremely complex nature of his business dealings, the final installment of the $500,000 bequest he made was not paid until the summer of 1923.

The Coin Collector

Albert Holden's application for membership in the American Numismatic Association was dated November 28, 1908. Approval was published in the January 1909 edition of *The Numismatist*. Bert listed his occupation as a newspaper publisher and references as "any of the old dealers." His application was sponsored by Farran Zerbe; Adam Kuechle; and E.M. Baker, who was probably the same Baker who ran the *Plain Dealer*, Bert's newspaper. When his application was approved, Bert received membership number 1123. Membership fees then were $1.50, but Bert made a handsome donation of $150.00.

Bert did not join any other numismatic organization, so far as is known. This is somewhat surprising, especially in one who lived so near the birthplace of the ANA. The Chicago Coin Club was very prominent at the time, listing among its membership Virgil M. Brand, and its monthly meetings were described in detail in *The Numismatist*, which Bert received as an ANA member.

A check of the membership records of the American Numismatic Society, the Boston Numismatic Society, the Massachusetts Historical Society, and the British Numismatic Society does not reveal Bert as a member of any of these organizations. Interestingly, inside Bert's copy of the auction catalogue of Lyman Low's September 1908 sale (Bird, Wright, "Southern Banker" collections) is a penciled notation in his hand recording the application fee for joining the British Numismatic Society, which was $5.00.

Bert was not listed as attending any of the annual ANA conventions in issues of *The Numismatist* for 1909-1912. He was not a subscriber to the 1907 American Numismatic Society building fund, either. In fact, his application to the ANA was the only record of his name as a coin collector that the present authors have located in print prior to 1914.

Important auction sales of the time were regularly reviewed in numismatic periodicals, such as *The American Journal of Numismatics* and *The Numismatist*. Sometimes the reviews printed the names of buyers of noteworthy coins, usually if they were dealers, and occasionally if they were well-known collectors, such as Virgil Brand or H.O. Granberg. Bert's name never appeared in any sale review, however. The closest it came to publication was in *The Numismatist*'s review of Elder's James B. Wilson Sale (October 1908).

We know from the inventory of his collection, prepared by his daughter Emery May Holden Norweb in the 1930s, that Bert purchased Wilson's 1838-O half dollar in that sale. In its review, *The Numismatist* reported, "The notable lot (346) of the first day's sale was the O under bust 1838 half dollar. Spirited bidding led the price to $570 at which Elder purchased it for an unannounced buyer. Mr. V.M. Brand and Mr. E.S. Sears trailed in the bidding at $560 and $551, respectively." Bert was the "unannounced buyer."

Another spirited fight took place in the same sale, over the legendary 1802 half dime, Lot 784. *The Numismatist* reported, "The lot of note on the second day, for price realized, was the 1802 half dime, lot 784. Mr. H.O. Granberg was the purchaser

and was closely chased to that price [the editor failed to include the price paid in his review, which was $715]. The previous record for this coin is said to have been $360 paid by Mr. W.F. Dunham of Chicago." Unstated was the fact that Bert was the bidder who chased Granberg for the 1802 half dime. His copy of the auction catalogue records his bid of $700 for the coin. After missing this opportunity, Bert never bought this rarity for his collection.

These are the only close references to Bert Holden we have found in published numismatic journals, literature, or correspondence of the time. He appears to have been a very discreet collector, one who may never have attended an auction sale in person, rather, bidding through dealers he trusted. His experiences with collecting mineral specimens may have made him shy of publicity. It will be remembered that shortly after he began collecting minerals, in 1896, he wrote his old teacher at Harvard that all the dealers were after him for specimens. When he began to collect coins in a serious way, toward the middle of 1907, he probably decided to remain an "unannounced buyer," to avoid the attention of professional numismatists. Additionally, he probably could not spare the time to travel for a few days to auctions, being busy with his business affairs.

The loss of Bert's correspondence files deprives us of the personal, anecdotal highlights about his coin collecting we would like to have. His opinions of dealers and collectors would have made interesting reading, coming from an extremely successful business man, one who was impatient with inefficiency and delay and who expected first-class treatment. Worse still, we will never know what he thought or felt about his collection of coins, the way we know about his collection of minerals. Consequently, Bert's numismatic activities will always be an incomplete story, and as a collector he will only be approachable through an examination of the inventory of his collection. To the best of our knowledge, his daughter Emery May Holden Norweb rarely talked about her father's collecting days, and we have no anecdotes preserved by the family to shed additional light on his importance to numismatics.

The loss of the correspondence files of such early professional numismatists as Henry Chapman, Thomas Elder, and Lyman Low is one of the most serious problems the numismatic researcher faces. Papers destroyed as being too confidential for publication over 70 years ago, if they had been preserved, would have lost the need for secrecy by the deaths of the parties involved. Files discarded long ago as unnecessary for future reference or business would be today's raw materials for researchers. We hope that the present generation of professionals pays more attention to the needs of future writers, who may thereby reconstruct an important part of numismatic history more easily, and with better results, than scholars can do today.

In the absence of the correspondence files of dealers with whom he did business, there are few other sources of information about Bert Holden available. One of these, contemporary named and priced auction catalogues, cannot be fully tapped, for an obvious reason.

It appears that Bert did not attend auction sales and bid in person. His purchases were made through agent bidders, such as Thomas Elder or Lyman Low. As he bid through agents, their names were recorded as buyers in named catalogues of sales we know, from his inventory, in which Bert bought heavily. To complicate matters even more, code names were often used in the place of actual buyer's names in named catalogues. In one named copy of Elder's Wilson Sale (October 1908) we have seen, against lots we know Bert purchased from reading the inventory, we find a code name in place of Bert's own. This was a common practice when anonymity was desired. For example, another noted collector, T. Harrison Garrett, used "South," "Baltimore," "Hotchkiss" and other pseudonyms when buying.

In only one case, so far, have we been told of a named catalogue that actually shows Bert's name as a buyer. This is a copy of Elder's Peter Mougey Sale catalogue (September 1910), which was described for us by John Adams, a noted numismatic researcher. There, Bert's name appears prominently as the buyer of such items as a 1799 Perfect Date large cent (purchase price $86), an Uncirculated 1801 large cent ($25), Proof large cents dated 1841 ($14.50), 1844 ($26.50), 1848 ($11.50), 1849 ($18.00), and 1857 ($8.00); 1861 and 1868 eagles, both graded Very Good ($10.25 each); and a long run of half eagles including 1840-C, 1844-D, 1847 (Uncirculated), 1848, 1849-D, 1852-C, 1857-D, and 1858-S examples ($5.25 each); as well as foreign coins from Mougey's collection.

This catalogue is atypical, in that it bears Bert's name against lots he purchased. We know from his inventory that Thomas Elder was one of his trusted agents. In fact, Bert's earliest recorded purchase was from Elder, on December 17, 1907. The catalogue copy we have referred to which names Bert may have been meant for private circulation inside Elder's office, where Bert would have been known as a collector, without breaching his desire for discretion.

We have attempted to reconstruct the inventory of Bert's collection as it stood at the time of his death; it may be found as an exhibit in this book. The reconstructed inventory will tell the reader more about Bert's collecting specialties, the dealers he patronized, and his interests in and goals for his collection.

A careful reading of the inventory listing can reveal some important facts about his numismatic activities, which might help to fill out our picture of Bert Holden as a coin collector.

Bert rushed into collecting coins in the same way, and with the same enthusiasm, as he did collecting minerals. In each field, he seems to have allocated himself a strict amount of time in which to complete his collection. His mineral collection was 85% complete after two years' work on it, from 1910 to 1912. Likewise, Bert's coin collecting activity was concentrated into a two-year span, from 1908 to 1910, during which he amassed 50% of the United States coins in the present Norweb Collection.

His earliest recorded purchase, a New England shilling, Noe III-C, was obtained from Thomas Elder on December 17, 1907. This was the date of Elder's sale of the Charles Steigerwalt Collection and the coin may have come from that sale, but the inventory record is not clear on this. His last recorded auction purchase was dated February 9, 1912, also from Elder, and may have come from Elder's 58th sale, but again, the inventory records are not clear on this point.

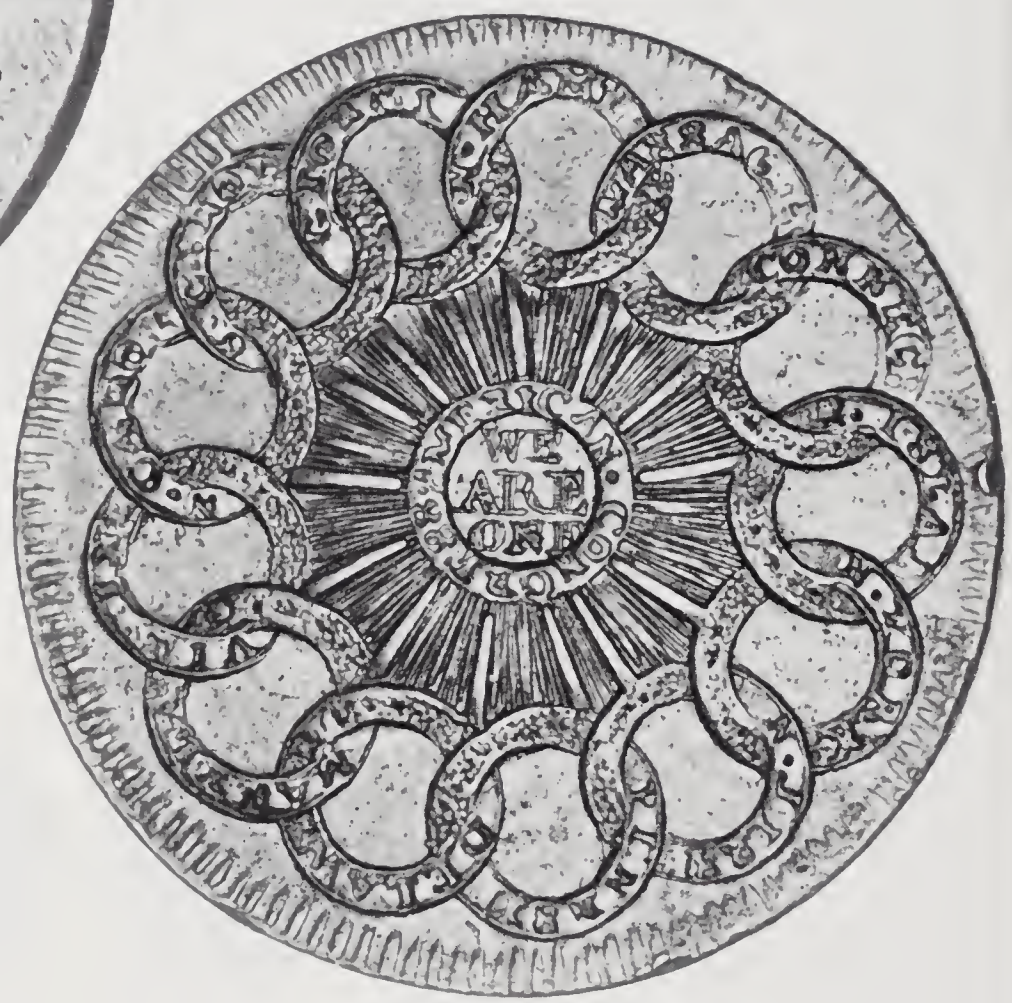
Bert seems to have had standing orders with the United States mints at Philadelphia, Denver, and San Francisco from 1908 onward. The last purchase of any kind that is recorded in the Norweb inventory books from Bert's collecting period was a 1911 silver Proof set, obtained directly from the Philadelphia Mint.

Bert's most intense collecting period was from September 1908 through October 1910. During these two years he bought from most of the "old dealers" he referred to in his ANA application.

Connecticut Coinage

IN 1785 the state of Connecticut contracted to have copper coins made by a partnership consisting of Samuel Bishop, Joseph Hopkins, James Hillhouse, and John Goodrich. From then through 1788, over 300 die varieties of coins, amounting to several hundred thousand specimens totally, were produced by the original contract holders as well as by others, including Abel Buel and Machin's Mills. Shown on this page is a typical 1787 issue of the Draped Bust style. The inscription AUCTORI CONNEC is for "the authority of Connecticut." The reverse inscription, INDE ET-LIB, is a contraction of "independence and liberty." The seated figure is an adaptation of Britannia used on contemporary circulating British halfpence.

1787 Fugio Cents



1787 FUGIO CENTS were the first coins known to have been officially authorized by Congress. Early in the year Congress provided for a contract for 300 tons of coins to be struck privately by James Jarvis. Fugio cents were coined subsequently in New Haven, Connecticut, and possibly elsewhere. Several dozen different die varieties exist. Illustrated here is one with the exceedingly rare reverse style inscribed at the center AMERICAN CONGRESS, enclosing the standard WE ARE ONE. This rare variant has the names of the 13 original colonies inscribed on the linked rings.

The obverse is from a design suggested by Benjamin Franklin. "Fugio," is "I fly" in Latin and refers to the rapid passage of time, also illustrated by the sundial. The inscription MIND YOUR BUSINESS is an encouragement to effort and industry. Somewhat similar motifs were used on the earlier 1776 Continental Currency coins.

His favorites were Thomas Elder, Henry Chapman, Ben Green, William Hesslein, David Proskey, and Scott Stamp & Coin. Most of his purchases from Proskey were colonial coins.

Pedigrees on many important coins in his collection show him to have been a bidder in some of the famous auction sales of his day. These included the Major Richard Lambert, Peter Mougey, Andrew Zabriskie, H. Jewett, Matthew Stickney, and James Wilson sales. The reconstructed inventory of Bert's collection, found in an accompanying exhibit, shows most of his purchases from these auctions, and we shall not go into further detail here.

One interesting fact that emerges from examining the inventory concerns Bert's collecting methodology. At times, and with certain denominations, Bert acquired entire date runs in one transaction. In this, he resembles his contemporary Virgil Brand. For example, Bert acquired Proof cents dated 1857, 1860, and intermittently from 1866 through 1889, 13 specimens in all, from Elder's sale of the James Wilson Collection.

From the same auction, Bert purchased Proof silver three-cent pieces dated 1860, 1863, 1866 to 1868, 1870, and 1871, seven specimens; according to inventory records he paid nine cents each for them. Among nickel three-cent pieces, he acquired Proof examples of 1866 to 1868, 1870, 1871, 1877 to 1880, 1885, 1886, and 1887 to 1889 from the Wilson Sale. His cost for dates after 1879 was three cents each; earlier dates cost nine cents each. The overdate, 1887/6, he bought from Ben Green in November 1909, for $1.25.

Similar collecting methods can be seen in the quarter and half dollar denominations.

Bert was very demanding when buying colonials, half cents, and large cents, three areas he particularly appreciated. Highlights of each of these can be found in the inventory reconstruction to follow, but some general observations should be made here.

The inventory clearly shows that Bert collected by die varieties. This is especially apparent in the colonial coins, half cents, and large cents sections of his collection.

Bert's collection of state coppers, coins issued from 1785 to 1788 by Massachusetts, New Jersey, Connecticut, and Vermont, was small. This can be explained by the suddenness with which death took him, and not by any disinterest. Mrs. Norweb recorded in her first inventory book that a collection of 155 different Connecticut coppers, many from Dr. Hall's collection, was found in Bert's house after his death. She noted that the collection had been sent to him on approval, and that he had become too ill to work on it after they arrived in Cleveland. The trustees of his estate found them after his death and bought them sight unseen.

Bert Holden also collected by mintmark, which was rather advanced for his time. Augustus Heaton's *Treatise on the Coinage of the United States Branch Mints* had been published in 1893, but collecting copper, silver, and gold coins by mintmarks was still in its infancy. Bert, however, made a deliberate attempt at securing branch mint coins, as the inventory listing shows.

The pace of his collecting activity can be illustrated by breaking out of the reconstructed inventory purchases made over differing time periods. We have chosen the month of October 1908, to illustrate the enthusiasm he felt for coin collecting.

An accompanying exhibit lists Bert's purchases made in that month, broken down by vendor. The listing is impressive, even if it must be incomplete due to the gaps in the overall record for this period. The total spent, $2,136.64, in 1908 represented more than most mens' annual salary or the cost of a typical modest residence. Individual prices paid make interesting reading today.

We cannot tell from the records that survive if certain purchases were made from auction sales or via private treaty sale. Presumably, coins Bert bought from Scott Stamp & Coin may have been private transactions. Whether the coins were sent to him on approval, or filled gaps in a want list he gave to Scott, or were specifically ordered is also unknown now. The listings are, however, impressive.

From Thomas Elder's sale of the James Wilson Collection (October 1908) alone, Bert acquired a set of the 1873 trade dollar patterns; 1836, 1838, and 1839 Gobrecht silver dollars; a 1793 Chain cent; the 1838-O half dollar; and a 1794 silver dollar. As the records show $1,480.69 spent with Elder, Bert Holden must have been one of the biggest buyers in the Wilson Sale.

Thomas Elder's invoice of October 17, 1908 (probably his 20th Sale), would make any collector of half cents sit up and take notice. The nine original and restrike Proof half cents he sold Bert are rare, and represented prizes for Bert's collection. Elder must have been pleased as well, since his prices were not bargains. All his October 1908 purchases together would make an important collection today.

A close reading of the annotations in Bert's handwriting found in the auction catalogues that survive from his library shows that grading was a concern then, as now. In the catalogue of Lyman Low's sale of September 1908, Bert used the standard adjectival grades in his comments (probably relayed to him from an agent who inspected the lots for him): Fine, Very Fine, Uncirculated, etc. By September 1910, two years later, Bert was using numerical grades. The "scientific" precision implicit in numerical grades probably appealed to the engineer in Bert.

Present readers of this book may be surprised to learn that precedent for numerical grading of United States coins can be found in W.H. Strobridge's catalogue of the Lorin G. Parmelee Sale of June 1873. There, Strobridge created a grading system which assigned 0 for Proof, 1 for Uncirculated, 2 for Very Fine, 3 for Fine, 4 for Good, and 5 for "ordinary." He called the numbering system an improvement rather than an innovation. Whether Bert knew of Strobridge's innovation directly, or from another collector, is unknown. We do know he adopted a numerical grading system himself, which refined the categories left so broad by the earlier one.

Bert assigned eight numbers to coins, from 1 to 8. A Proof was given number 1, the number 2 was for an Uncirculated coin, 3 for an About Uncirculated one, 4 for an Extremely Fine specimen, 5 was for a Very Fine coin, 6 for a Fine, 7 for a Good, and 8 for a Poor one. He applied this system to his own coins and used it when commenting on grades printed in auction catalogues. His own inventory (hints of which can be found in the annotations in auction catalogues) listed the grades of his coins numerically, and occasionally comments such as, "Ours 5, this 2, buy" can be read in notes he wrote in dealers' catalogues.

Much about a collector can be told from the contents of his library, especially his degree of sophistication in the hobby. Unfortunately, most of Bert's own library was dispersed between 1913, the year of his death, and the 1930s, when his daughter, Mrs. Norweb, resumed collecting coins. From what remains, however, and the scattered references to titles since lost, we can tell

Reconstruction of Albert Holden's Coin Purchases For October 1908

The following exhibit reconstructs Albert Holden's numismatic purchases for just one month, October 1908. The information presented here is fragmentary, due to the loss of his correspondence files and inventory records. The reconstruction is based upon notes of some of his purchases, preserved by Mrs. R. Henry Norweb, and supplied by R. Henry Norweb, Jr. Note: Attributions have been supplied by the authors.

Thomas Elder

October 8, 1908

1795 half dollar	--

October 17, 1908

1831 half cent. Original Proof	52.50
1842 half cent. Original Proof	80.00
1842 half cent. Restrike Proof	78.65
1843 half cent. Original Proof	50.00
1845 half cent. Original Proof	111.50
1847 half cent. Original Proof	44.00
1848 half cent. Original Proof	48.00
1849 half cent. Original Proof	66.00
1852 half cent. Proof	31.50
Total	562.15

Ben Green

October 23, 1908

1832 half cent. Gilbert-2	--
1819 cent. Newcomb-3	--
1856 quarter. Proof	1.75
Total	1.75

October 28, 1908

1833 half cent. Proof	.09
Total	.09

David Proskey

October 27, 1908

Baltimore sixpence, Small Bust, no period	18.00
Bar cent	5.75
Total	23.75

Scott Stamp & Coin Company

October 20, 1908

1853 half cent	--
1796 cent. Sheldon-104	--
1812 cent. S-290	--

October 25, 1908

1806 half cent. G-1	--
1826 half cent. G-1	--
1854 half cent	--
1794 cent. S-69	--
1796 cent. S-91	--
1796 cent. S-110	--
1797 cent. S-134	1.00
1804 cent. S-266	--
1804 cent. S-266	5.40
1805 cent. S-267	1.10
1805 cent. S-269	1.10
1818 cent. N-10	.25
1819 cent. N-8	1.25
1826 cent. N-7	5.00
1827 cent. N-12	1.10
1828 cent. N-2	5.00
1830 cent. N-1	.75
1831 cent. N-3	.60
1832 cent. N-1	.75
1834 cent. N-2	1.60
1836 cent. N-3	1.50
1839 cent. N-4	1.20
1839 cent. N-5	.50
1839 cent. N-8	8.40
1843 cent. N-7	.85
1849 cent. N-20	.50
1853 cent. N-7	.15
1855 cent. N-3	.30
1856 cent. N-2	.25
1852 silver three-cents	.11
1853 silver three-cents	.11
1854 silver three-cents	.11
1855 silver three-cents	.65
1856 silver three-cents	.11
1850 half dime	--
1818/5 quarter dollar	--
1820 quarter dollar	--
1825/4 quarter dollar	--
1834 quarter dollar	.35
1838 quarter dollar	.55
1842 quarter dollar	.40
1855 quarter dollar	.40
1806 half dollar	--
1841 half dollar	.70
1848-O half dollar	.60
Total	42.64

October 27, 1908

1779 Rhode Island Ship token, No Wreath	2.00
1860-O half dime	--
1898-O dime	.15
1898-S dime	.25
1899-O dime	.15
1900-O dime	.15
1841-O quarter dollar	.35
1858-O quarter dollar	.60
1876-S quarter dollar	,45
1892-O quarter dollar	.60
1843-O half dollar	.60
Total	5.30

October 28, 1908

1851 half cent	--

Elmer Sears

October 1, 1908

1846 cent. N-11	1.00

Purchased in October 1908; day not specific

1831 dime. Scott Stamp & Coin Co.	--
1832 dime. Scott Stamp & Coin Co.	.29
1836 dime. Ben Green	--
1837 dime. Scott Stamp & Coin Co.	.25
1837 dime, Liberty Seated type. Thomas Elder	.25
1838 dime. Scott Stamp & Coin Co.	--
1840-O dime. Scott Stamp & Coin Co.	--
1841-O dime. Scott Stamp & Coin Co.	--
1842-O dime. Scott Stamp & Coin Co.	--
1851 dime. Scott Stamp & Coin Co.	--
1853 dime. Scott Stamp & Coin Co.	--
1855 dime. Scott Stamp & Coin Co.	--
1857-O dime. Scott Stamp & Coin Co.	--
1859-O dime. Scott Stamp & Coin Co.	.18
1894-O dime. Scott Stamp & Coin Co.	.15
1895-O dime. Scott Stamp & Coin Co.	.15
1896-S dime. Scott Stamp & Coin Co.	.25
1897-O dime. Scott Stamp & Coin Co.	.15
1897-S dime. Scott Stamp & Coin Co.	.25
Total	1.92

Stevens & Co.

October 20, 1908

1816 cent. N-2	1.50
1822 cent. N-4	1.00
1831 cent. N-6	1.50
1834 cent. N-1	1.00
1838 cent. N-5	1.50
1840 cent. N-1a	8.00
1842 cent. N-4	1.00
1846 cent. N-1	1.50
Total	17.00

Purchased from Thomas Elder's James B. Wilson Sale

October 5, 1908

1793 Chain cent	54.00
1795 cent	10.75
1795 cent. Jefferson Head	4.50
1796 cent	9.25
1797 cent	21.25
1800 cent	10.25
1802 cent	5.00
1802 cent	4.00
1802 cent	2.10
1802 cent	2.90
1811 cent	2.50
1816 cent	1.00
1818 cent	.60
1838 cent	.65
1843 cent	.60
1845 cent	.95
1845 cent. N-4	.50
1847 cent. N-4	.50
1850 cent	.20
1851 cent	.20
1855 cent. N-10	.50
1856 Flying Eagle cent. Proof	19.00
1857 Flying Eagle cent. Proof	.02

1860 cent. Proof	.02
1863 cent	.02
1866 cent. Proof	.02
1868 cent. Proof	.03
1870 cent. Proof	.03
1871 cent. Proof	.03
1879 cent. Proof	.01
1880 cent. Proof	.01
1885 cent. Proof	.01
1886 cent. Proof	.01
1887 cent. Proof	.01
1888 cent. Proof	.01
1889 cent. Proof	.01
1866 two-cents. Proof	.01
1867 two-cents. Proof	.04
1868 two-cents. Proof	.04
1870 two-cents. Proof	.06
1871 two-cents. Proof	.06
1860 silver three-cents. Proof	.06
1863 silver three-cents. Proof	.09
1866 silver three-cents. Proof	.09
1867 silver three-cents. Proof	.09
1868 silver three-cents. Proof	.09
1870 silver three-cents. Proof	.09
1871 silver three-cents. Proof	.09
1866 nickel three-cents. Proof	.09
1867 nickel three-cents. Proof	.09
1868 nickel three-cents. Proof	.09
1870 nickel three-cents. Proof	.09
1871 nickel three-cents. Proof	.09
1879 nickel three-cents. Proof	.03
1880 nickel three-cents. Proof	.03
1885 nickel three-cents. Proof	.03
1886 nickel three-cents. Proof	.03
1887 nickel three-cents. Proof	.03
1888 nickel three-cents. Proof	.03
1889 nickel three-cents. Proof	.03
1848 half dime	.53
1807 dime	2.20
1860 dime. Proof	.45
1863 dime. Proof	.25
1866 dime. Proof	.20
1867 dime. Proof	.70
1868 dime. Proof	.65
1870 dime. Proof	.45
1871 dime. Proof	.45
1879 dime. Proof	.35
1880 dime. Proof	.35
1807 quarter dollar	3.50
1833 quarter dollar	.95
1860 quarter dollar. Proof	.50
1861 quarter dollar. Proof	.75
1863 quarter dollar. Proof	.50
1864 quarter dollar. Proof	1.00
1866 quarter dollar. Proof	.50
1867 quarter dollar. Proof	.50
1868 quarter dollar. Proof	.75
1870 quarter dollar. Proof	.75
1871 quarter dollar. Proof	.75
1879 quarter dollar. Proof	.25
1880 quarter dollar. Proof	.30
1884 quarter dollar. Proof	.31
1885 quarter dollar. Proof	.25
1886 quarter dollar. Proof	.25
1887 quarter dollar. Proof	.28
1888 quarter dollar. Proof	.25
1889 quarter dollar. Proof	.25
1795 half dollar	1.55
1805/4 half dollar	2.05
1806/5 half dollar	1.85
1811 half dollar	.75
1813 half dollar	1.20
1836 half dollar, reeded edge	1.85
1838-O half dollar	570.00
1846 half dollar	.85
1856-O half dollar	.90
1860 half dollar. Proof	1.30
1863 half dollar. Proof	1.10
1865-S half dollar	.75
1865-S half dollar	.60
1866 half dollar. Proof	1.05
1867 half dollar. Proof	.70
1868 half dollar. Proof	.75
1870 half dollar. Proof	.70
1871 half dollar. Proof	1.50
1871-S half dollar	.70
1873 half dollar No Arrows	.55
1879 half dollar. Proof	.85
1880 half dollar. Proof	.70
1794 silver dollar	180.00
1795 silver dollar	5.00
1795 silver dollar	3.50
1796 silver dollar	4.00
1798 silver dollar	4.50
1798 silver dollar	4.75
1799/8 silver dollar	4.00
1799 silver dollar	2.25
1799 silver dollar	2.90
1850 silver dollar	2.50
1854 silver dollar	7.50
1857 silver dollar. Proof	3.00
1876 trade dollar	1.15
1876-S trade dollar	1.05
1877-S trade dollar	1.05
1878-S trade dollar	1.05
1878-S trade dollar	1.15
1851 gold dollar	2.25
1800 half eagle	7.35
1804 half eagle	6.90
1805 half eagle	6.90
1806 half eagle	7.00
1807 half eagle	6.60
1801 eagle	13.25
1860 silver Proof set, 7 pieces	4.70
1863 silver Proof set, 7 pieces	5.00
1866 silver Proof set, 10 pieces	3.40
1867 silver Proof set, 10 pieces	4.30
1868 silver Proof set, 10 pieces	4.40
1870 silver Proof set, 10 pieces	4.00
1871 silver Proof set, 10 pieces	4.00
1873 silver Proof set, 7 pieces	3.30
1879 silver Proof set, 7 pieces	2.00
1880 silver Proof set, 8 pieces	3.35
1881 silver Proof set, 7 pieces	2.05
1884 silver Proof set, 7 pieces	2.10
1885 silver Proof set, 7 pieces	2.10
1886 silver Proof set, 7 pieces	2.10
1887 silver Proof set, 7 pieces	2.05
1888 silver Proof set, 7 pieces	2.05
1889 silver Proof set, 7 pieces	2.00
1895 silver Proof set, 6 pieces	4.50
1896 silver Proof set, 6 pieces	2.10
1897 silver Proof set, 6 pieces	2.05
1903 silver Proof set, 6 pieces	2.05
1836 Gobrecht dollar, Name on Base	10.00
1836 Gobrecht dollar. Name in Field	104.00
1838 Gobrecht dollar	190.00
1839 Gobrecht dollar	51.00
1873 pattern trade dollar set. 6 pieces	18.00
Total	1,480.69
Grand Total (partial)	$2,136.64

that Bert was advanced for his time, exhibiting a degree of numismatic sophistication uncommon in the early 1900s.

A brief listing of the books that survive from his time can be found in the exhibit listing Bert's library, which accompanies this text. Among colonial coins books Bert Holden owned were references by Crosby and Maris, but not by Hall. Among federal issues, Bert concentrated on books about large cents, including Crosby on the 1793 cents, Maris on the 1794 cents, Gilbert and Elder on the cents of 1796, and Frossard on large cents and half cents of 1793-1857. He also owned a copy of Haseltine's *Type Table* and Newlin's work on the early date half dimes. All in all, it was a respectable library for the time, and a very complete one too, as there were few other references available then.

The last piece of correspondence in Bert's file at Harvard is a telegram to Professor Wolff dated May 19, 1913, informing Wolff of the funeral arrangements made for Bert. It was signed A.W.

1792 Mint Patterns

The 1792 half disme

1792 Birch Cent. The design, believed to have been by Robert Birch, was produced only in pattern form.

1792 Fusible Alloy Cent

1792 Disme

1792 Wright Quarter

THE PHILADELPHIA MINT began operations toward the end of 1792. In that year a number of illustrious patterns were produced, several of which are shown on this page. One of the most famous is the Birch Cent, engraved by Robert Birch, featuring the portrait of Miss Liberty, the date 1792 below, and the inscription LIBERTY PARENT OF SCIENCE & INDUSTRY surrounding. Birch Cents were made in several styles. At the upper right of the page is shown is the 1792 half disme. Although many numismatists have styled this as a pattern, it has status as a regular issue, for in President Washington's annual address, November 6, 1792, he stated: "There has been a small beginning in the coinage of half dimes; the want of small coins in circulation calling the first attention to them." It has been estimated that 1,500 to 2,000 pieces were struck, from bullion deposited at the Mint by President Washington. Although coinage presses had arrived from England on September 21, 1792, the Mint was not ready to operate by the time the half dismes were produced, so they were struck in the cellar of John Harper, a saw maker, located at the corner of Cherry and 6th streets. The 1792 cent at the lower left is the so-called fusible alloy issue, made by combining copper with a small percentage of silver, so that the resultant coin would have the instrinsic value of one cent but would be smaller than if made of pure copper. The next photograph is of the 1792 disme, examples are known in copper (here illustrated) and silver. The final illustration is of Joseph Wright's famous eagle-on-globe pattern, believed to have been for a quarter dollar. Examples exist in white metal (here shown) and copper.

A Numismatic Library of the Period 1908-1912

Listed in the schedule below are key reference works that were in the library of Albert F. Holden. The volumes and monographs constitute a working library for United States and colonial era coinage.

General Works

Eckfeldt, Jacob and William E. Du Bois. *New Varieties of Gold and Silver Coins, Counterfeit Coins, and Bullion: with Mint Values.* (1850)

Evans, George. *Illustrated History of the U.S. Mint.* (1893)

Hickcox, John. *A Historical Account of American Coinage.* (1858)

Sumner, William Graham. *A History of American Coinage.* (1899)

Colonial Era Coins

Appleton, William Sumner. *Description of Coins. . .Relating to the United States.* (1870)

Christmas, H. *Copper Coins of the British Colonies in America.* (1862)

Crosby, Sylvester S. *The Early Coins of America.* (1875)

Felt, J.B. *Massachusetts Currency.* (1839)

Maris, Edward. *A Historical Sketch of the Coins of New Jersey.* (1881)

Federal Issues

Andrews, Frank D. *A Description of 268 Varieties of U.S. Cents, 1816-1857. . .* (1881)

Crosby. Sylvester S. *United States Coinage of 1793 - Cents and Half Cents.* (1897)

Dickeson, Montroville W. *The American Numismatical Manual. . .* (1859)

Doughty, F.W. *The Cents of the United States. A Numismatic Study.* (1890)

Frossard, Edouard. *Monograph of United States Cents and Half Cents Issued Between the Years 1793-1857.* (1879)

Gilbert, Ebenezer and Thomas Elder. *The Varieties of United States Cents of 1796.* (1909)

Haseltine, John W. *Type Table of United States Dollars, Half Dollars, and Quarters.* (1881)

Heaton, Augustus. *Treatise on the Coinage of the U.S. Branch Mints.* (1893)

Maris, Edouard. *Varieties of the Copper Issues of the United States Mint in the Year 1794.* (1869)

Newlin, Harold. *The Early Half Dimes of the United States.* (1883)

Auction catalogues; *American Journal of Numismatics*; *The Numismatist*; B. Max Mehl's *Monthly* and *Star Coin Review*; Scott & Co., *Coin Collector's Journal.*

Kuechle, who had been one of Bert's sponsors for membership in the American Numismatic Association five years earlier. Bert's obituary was published in *The Numismatist* for March 1914.

The Family Man

Bert's driving ambition was to succeed in whatever he tried his hand at, and in the shortest possible time. He made no allowances for failure, for himself or for anyone connected with him, and the high standards for achievement he set himself he applied equally to his associates and his family. Yet, he could be charming when he wanted to, and despite being a harsh taskmaster he was deeply loved by his family.

Albert Holden's granddaughter Jeanne, now Mother Mary Joseph, O.C.D., provided the following story of Bert's courtship and marriage, which was in the form of a letter to her from a great aunt, one of Bert Holden's sisters. Mother Mary Joseph kindly read relevant portions of the communication to the authors in an interview. It illustrates two sides of Bert's personality, the one that drove him to get what he wanted and the other that could temper his ambition with charm. The Katherine referred to was Emery May's mother, Jeanne's grandmother (modern family practice spells her name Katharine).

> The third Katherine, always called Kate, was short, about the height of your mother [i.e., Mrs. Norweb]. She was not as pretty as her two older sisters. Her face was very intelligent. She wore glasses from the time she was a young girl. As I remember, all the young men from near and far were in love with her. Kate went to Salt Lake City to visit an aunt. At that time Kate was engaged to a young man from Pennsylvania. Kate met your grandfather [Albert Holden]. Apparently, it was a case of love at first sight on both sides. The young man from Pennsylvania was sent off and your grandmother was married in the spring at Davis, West Virginia. For some time they lived in Salt Lake City. Those were the happiest years of her life.

Bert married Katherine Davis on April 27, 1894. The couple's first child, Elizabeth Davis, was born the following year. Bert was disappointed that his first born had not been a boy, but young Elizabeth soon became the center of his attention. When the couple planned their second child Bert was determined it

1792 Silver Center Cent

THE 1792 SILVER CENTER CENT, one of the most famous patterns from the first year of the Philadelphia Mint, illustrates an interesting concept in value. To create a coin with an instrinsic or melt-down value of one cent, and at the same time to create a coin that was not too bulky or cumbersome, the proposal was made to insert a small plug of silver in the center of a copper planchet. In this way the coin could have the correct intrinsic value and yet be of relatively small diameter and low weight. This particular issue was mentioned by Thomas Jefferson in a letter to President George Washington on December 18, 1792: "Th. Jefferson has the honor to send the President two cents made on Voigt's plan by putting a silver plug worth 3/4 of a cent into a copper worth 1/4 cent." The same letter went on to discuss the pieces which collectors know today as fusible alloy patterns: "Mr. Rittenhouse is about to make a few by mixing the same plug by fusion with the same quantity of copper. He will then make of copper one of the same size & lastly he will make the real cent as ordered by Congress four times as big. Specimens of these several ways of making the cent may now be delivered to the Committee of Congress now having the subject before them."

The Numismatic Scene in 1908

The year that Albert Holden applied for membership in the American Numismatic Association, 1908, saw many interesting events in numismatics. The ANA, with approximately 650 members (slightly fewer than 500 were active members, the others were in arrears for their dues), was the focal point for the dissemination of information, opinions, and data. In the early part of the year, through the June issue, *The Numismatist*, official journal of the organization, continued to be published by Dr. George F. Heath, of Monroe, Michigan, who founded the monthly magazine in 1888, later affiliating with the ANA when the group was formed in 1891. Following Heath's death on June 16, 1908, the preparation of *The Numismatist* was transferred to Farran Zerbe, who at the time was American's most active promoter of numismatics.

Zerbe, whose interest in coins began when he was a child in Tyrone, Pennsylvania, when he was fascinated by a strange French coin he received in change, went on to form an immense and very diverse collection of money of the world. His exhibit, which was shown frequently at national fairs and exhibitions, ranged from primitive money of Africa and the South Seas to current United States coinage, and just about everything in between. Zerbe accomplished much, including the presidency of the American Numismatic Association (in 1908), the holding in 1915 of the franchise to sell commemorative coins at the Panama-Pacific International Exposition in San Francisco, and the publication in 1926 of the standard reference on political tokens and "money" associated with the 1896 and 1900 presidential campaigns of William Jennings Bryan. A promoter par excellence, he did much to build the hobby during the early part of the present century. Today, the American Numismatic Association's highest honor, the Farran Zerbe Award, is named after him.

First and foremost in the minds of the collectors in the early months of 1908 was the new gold coinage. Several years before then, President Theodore Roosevelt, during a visit to the Smithsonian Institution, was impressed with the "sculptured" and very artistic appearance of ancient Greek coins. Believing that current United States coins were pallid by comparison, he sought to have the different American denominations redesigned, from the cent to the double eagle. Departing from the century-old tradition of having mint employees prepare new motifs, he commissioned Augustus Saint-Gaudens, one of America's best-known sculptors, to do the work. Spurred on by Roosevelt's infectious enthusiasm, and by a stipend of $5,000 provided by the government, Saint-Gaudens, working in his Cornish (New Hampshire) studio, prepared sketches for various denominations. The artist, in failing health, died during the summer of 1907. The redesigning of the entire coinage spectrum was never accomplished, but what he did achieve was of memorable import and created a sensation. First to be released in circulation were Saint-Gaudens' new $10 coins, featuring on the obverse the stylized portrait of an Indian and on the reverse a perched eagle. These were followed, in the autumn of 1907, by the most dramatic American design ever released: the MCMVII High Relief double eagle, with the obverse and reverse in medallic relief and detail.

For a number of years before then, the designs of circulating American coins had been the object of much criticism, not only by numismatists, but by the general public. Particularly disliked were the dime, quarter, and half dollar designs created by Charles E. Barber and initially released in 1892, and George T. Morgan's silver dollar motif of 1878. In 1895 a national campaign was mounted to redesign the coinage, but after much discussion and study, nothing was done. Thus, Roosevelt's initiative, which saw partial fruition in 1907, was welcomed by collectors. In the January 1908 issue of *The Numismatist* the American Numismatic Association officially endorsed the Saint-Gaudens' new $10 and $20 designs, with the caveat that

> While we recognize that there are both commercial and artistic defects, both of these will be remedied in due season. In fact, the commercial and economic faults, although simply those of convenience, have been already remedied, and that the artistic and numismatic will come in due time we have full faith. As numismatists we hail the innovation with much interest and satisfaction, even if it has begun with what we have always considered our best types of coinage; and we hope our worst types, the 25- and 50-cent pieces [reference to the Barber coinage], will next receive earnest consideration, the efforts at improvement and artistic realization will be continued until we have a series of coins worthy of the great nation they represent.

Saint-Gaudens' new $10 and $20 designs omitted the traditional motto IN GOD WE TRUST, which had been in general use since the mid 1860s. This was due to Theodore Roosevelt's personal feeling, as expressed by the president himself, "that to put such a motto on coins or to use it in any kindred manner, not only does no good but does positive harm, and is in effect irreverence which comes dangerously close to sacrilege. A beautiful and solemn sentence such as the one in question should be treated and uttered only with that fine reverence which necessarily implies a certain exaltation of spirit."

Members of Congress felt differently, and later in 1908 the motto was restored.

The advent of the new $10 and $20 pieces provided a forum for many to express their views. Farran Zerbe penned a detailed dissertation on the subject, analyzing carefully each aspect of the designs, and noting:

> We must acknowledge the new gold coins as the greatest achievement in medallic art for their intended purpose. The $20 piece surpasses the $10 in its approach to perfection. Unfortunately, the $10 coin was issued first, anticipation had been too great, and momentary disappointment brought forth criticisms. It seems natural for man having anticipated the works of others, to criticize the product unless it exceeds expectation and surpasses applied tests and comparison. A decided depar-

ture from any known in our country's commercialism, the new coins found an exaggerated expectancy from the many, and numerous critical, satirical, and humorous expressions followed, but there were expressions of approval and they came from those most capable to judge and were explicit in pointing out the merits, causing those who had not given detailed consideration to look again, to find that their criticisms had been too severe.

The new coins are in higher relief than any modern coinage, the type standing up boldly from the free field that surrounds, the lettering concentrated in small space, the motto IN GOD WE TRUST omitted, the long-used so-called "reeded edge" is supplanted with embossed stars and letters. These, in the main, are what make the new coins so very new.

In the meantime, the MCMVII double eagles provided the opportunity for profit, as noted in an article in the January issue of *The Numismatist*:

One of the features attending the issue of the new twenty-dollar gold pieces was the speculative interest the new pieces caused. It has been so many years since a new piece has been distributed to the public, that from the moment of its inception it was destined to be rare, both on account of the limited number issued and its novel pecularities. The index of the rise of the Stock Exchange, and especially of the Curb Market, is exemplified in the speculation of these pieces among the curb brokers and bankers and clerks.

A few thousand only of these "high relief" pieces were struck [actually, 11,250], and were distributed by the Philadelphia Mint to the different Sub-Treasuries the first week in December [1907]. Five hundred were allotted to Boston and only five pieces were allowed to each bank and individual that asked for the new coins. The allotment was exhausted in Boston in a single day. But a short time after this, word was received that no more of these pieces could be struck and the the government was anxious to get back as many of these new pieces as possible. This was on account of the sharp wire edge on the majority of those coins, caused by the metal being forced up between the die and the collar. A false rumor gained currency that the government would pay a premium to get these pieces back, and the prices of double eagles consequently began to soar. The various Sub-Treasuries were besieged by a host of 11th-hour bargain hunters, and the tempers of the redemption clerks were sorely tried by the repeated inquiries for the new twenties. The crowd then turned their attention to the clerks in the banks and the attendants in the federal buildings.

On December 11, the following notice was published in the Sub-Treasury in Boston: "Clerks having a copy of the new $20 gold piece are forbidden to sell the same at a premium." During the second week in December, active trading in the new twenties was carried on in the various Curb Markets in the country, and prices quoted ranged from $26 to $35. Telegraph and long distance telephone orders were executed on the New York Curb for deliveries in other cities. Fifty changed hands in one day on the Boston Curb at prices ranging from $26 to $31. One broker sold five pieces "short" at $26 and later was obliged to pay $30 each to "cover in." Up to date the activity seem to be among brokers rather than among collectors, the latter appearing to be indifferent whether they got hold of these coins or not. It is too early yet to tell just what the prices of these pieces will settle down to, but there is no doubt that the new twenty will command a substantial premium and that as time goes on the piece will gradually increase in rarity. Just at present the bulk of the pieces are in non-collectors' hands, such as individuals that are holding onto a single piece for its novelty and beautiful appearance, others that are intending to make use of them for Christmas presents, and still others who are hoarding several of them for an ultimate rise in price. Many collectors and semi-collectors in the larger cities are doing this.

Many episodes in this recent flurry in double eagles have come to light. One coin dealer got hold of about a dozen pieces the first day and sold them at $20.50 each, he had not got through patting himself on the back when he realized that for each he could have obtained several dollars more. He later bought back a few with a several dollars advance and is now debating whether to sell them again at a few dollars profit or to hold onto them.

It is related of another dealer from one of the larger cities the other day who stepped into a specie broker's office and in the course of the conversation remarked that he had heard that the new twenties were out, and that he thought he would get a few, and if the broker could get him some he would expect to pay him a little something for his trouble. The broker said that he thought that he could accommodate him, but that he would have to get about $10 profit on each piece for his trouble.

Two of the leading dealers of the day, Samuel Hudson Chapman and Thomas L. Elder, wrote to President Theodore Roosevelt congratulating him on his interest in securing a "better and more artistic coinage for the United States," and noting: "We would venture to offer our humble services, as experienced numismatists, in suggesting the names of competent artists or criticizing their designs, and believe, with our knowledge of the coinage of the world, we could be of some service."

In the meantime, Augustus Saint-Gaudens was dead, and no word was given as to whether other coinage denominations, from the cent through the $5 piece, would be redesigned by others. This furnished the opportunity for the airing of many ideas. Augustus G. Heaton, one of the leading lights of the American Numismatic Association, an accomplished artist, and the author in 1893 of *Mint Marks*, an innovative study of the desirability of collecting coins from branch mints (something that was not popular before then), furnished his idea for a new

1793 Half Cent

THE FIRST UNITED STATES HALF CENT is dated 1793 and is of the Liberty Capped style with Head Facing Left. This motif was produced only in 1793. The following year, 1794, Miss Liberty faced to the right. According to mintage, 35,334 1793 half cents were struck, divided among several different die varieties and combinations.

Half Cents of 1796

THE YEAR 1796 is famous in half cent lore. Two varieties were produced that year, one with pole to cap on the obverse (enlarged illustration above), and the other variety lacking the pole. Both are extremely rare, with the no-pole variety being the rarer of the two.

motif, submitting sketches which were published in *The Numismatist*:

> At your request I enclose suggested sketches for a new design upon a national coinage. The French have adopted Millet's figure of a woman sowing grain. Why may we not dismiss meaningless Greek and Indian Heads and have a group indicating labor, a woman's aid, and education of youth—the spirit of our progress—with the date beneath and the legend—"Liberty and Equality under Law: Prosperity and Energy and Integrity."
>
> On the reverse of the national shield is the spread eagle with a scroll in his beak on which is the number and name of the current president. This would be an historic record and give very interesting variety to our monotonous series. As a substitute for the contested IN GOD WE TRUST the Divine Eye (as used once by the Mormons) would be more impressive to old and young and not subject to trivial perversion.
>
> The mention of the number of our states and of our dependencies would also be desirable. The anchor and telegraph pole top suggest commerce and electrical progress of communication. Some of the details of these designs could be condensed or minted on the smaller silver coins.

The government remained silent on the subject of coinage reform. Following little if any advance notice and no attendant publicity, in November 1908 new designs were released for the $2.50 and $5 gold pieces. The announcement was carried in *The Numismatist*:

> New $2.50 and $5.00 Gold Pieces—That which has been anticipated for months is now a fact and a decidedly new and novel departure in United States coinage appears in the new $2.50 and $5 gold pieces which were just issued, the first was in November. The great novelty in the new coins is that design is incuse, instead of being raised or embossed, as is the general coinage of the world. The planchets are not milled, the field from edge to edge being one flat surface, with the design struck in, or sunk. The periphery (so-called edge) is reeded.
>
> At last we have the features of a real Indian on our coinage. The central design on the obverse present in profile the strong figures of the male Indian with long extending and wide, full, feathered headdress. Above the head is LIBERTY which with six stars at right and seven at left, with eight below, completes the border surrounding the head. B.L.P. in minute letters, indicating the designer, appear below the head. The stars are five-pointed.
>
> The design of the reverse is the much commented upon eagle that appears on the Saint-Gaudens type $10 piece. The incuse design, even on the smaller planchets, emphasizes or magnifies the characteristics of this muchly and greatly criticized bird. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA is in a semicircle at top, with the denomination below. E PLURIBUS UNUM in three lines occupies the field in front of the eagle, and in the opposite field IN GOD WE TRUST appears in four lines.
>
> Those who appreciate innovation certainly have it in the new coins. General comments on the issue will be welcomed from our contributors.

The following issue of *The Numismatist* contained a detailed article by Howland Wood, commenting on the new designs and their place in coinage history, pointing out that incuse motifs were hardly new in coinage, having been used in the 6th century BC, but not in modern times. Farran Zerbe, president of the American Numismatic Association and editor of *The Numismatist*, had no way of knowing that the new $2.50 and $5 pieces would engender a tremendous flood of criticism in months to come. Subsequently, the February 1909 issue of *The Numismatist* printed a letter from Samuel Hudson Chapman, who was perhaps miffed that he was not consulted (having written to Roosevelt on the subject earlier) and who stated, in part:

> The head of the Indian is without artistic merit, and portrays an Indian who is emaciated, totally unlike the big, strong Indian chiefs as seen in real life. The treatment of the head is crude and hard, with sharp, abrupt outlines, as if carved by a mere metal chaser; and on the reverse is a reproduction of the Saint-Gaudens' eagle, which represents not our national bird (a white-headed eagle—commonly but erroneously called the bald-headed eagle—which has no feathers on its feet), but resembles more closely the golden eagle, which is also indigenous to Europe.
>
> The placing of the design below the surface of the planchet, with deeply incised outline, gives the effect of having been engraved into the metal, and can, therefore, be closely imitated by any metal chaser with the graver, without dies or moulds. And I am certain that if this had been suggested to the Secret Service officials, it never would have issued by the Treasury Department, and the issuance ought to be immediately stopped and the coins recalled, for everyone will be in danger of the imitations.
>
> The sunken design, especially the deeply sunken portion of the neck of the Indian, will be a great receptacle for dirt and conveyor of disease, the coin will be the most unhygienic ever issued....

George H. King, of the Denver National Bank, added his feelings:

> The new $5 and $2.50 pieces will not stand the wear and tear of circulation because of their flat surfaces. The more surface exposed to friction across the counter and being handled, the greater the wear. They are not practical, for they will not fit in coin trays.
>
> The question has already been raised, and I believe the point well taken, regarding the incused stamping as to their sanitary and germ-carrying possibilities. I noticed that in the short length of time these coins have been

in circulation the silt common to the handling of money is beginning to settle in the depressions, and, of course, is carried from one person to another. On all sides I hear severe criticisms of these coins for many reasons....

Farran Zerbe added his own thoughts to the discussion, and noted that many people seeking gold coins at banks "refused the new types, seeking the old ones in preference."

While the American Numismatic Association was the most popular organization in the hobby, more academic was the American Numismatic Society, which in 1908 had just moved into its magnificent new building located at Audubon Park, 155th Street and Broadway, New York City, a structure largely financed through the beneficence of Archer M. Huntington, who in 1908 was president of the Society. On a quarterly basis the *American Journal of Numismatics* was published, a periodical devoted to studies and technical discussions of American and world coinage. The popular aspects were not overlooked, and when the new Saint-Gaudens $10 and $20 pieces were released toward the end of 1907, they received ample coverage. Like the similarly-named American Numismatic Association, the American Numismatic Society was an advocate of "coinage reform." The ANS preferred the committee route, and submitted a suggestion to President Roosevelt:

> That the sum of $10,000 be appropriated for each special coin model, without regard to the monetary value of the coin to be issued, whether a cent or a twenty-dollar gold piece, as it is important to have the smallest coins as artistic as the highest.
>
> That the best six designs received for each piece be awarded $1,000 each from the above sum of $10,000, and that the committee shall have the right to select the best of the six designs, and accept the model with or without modification by the designer, paying the successful competitor an additional sum of $4,000.

Taking a swipe at the still unchanged Morgan motif on the dollar, an article on the subject concluded by stating: "whether or not these latest developments of the effort to improve the artistic character of our coinage justified the hope that in due time we shall reap if we faint not, at least 'the days of peace and slumber, are fled.' Our people will never again be satisfied with types like those on the silver dollar of 1878..."

The Pratt coinage released at the end of 1908 did not receive the open-minded and cordial welcome given to the Saint-Gaudens $10 and $20 pieces months earlier. Criticisms of the innovative Pratt $2.50 and $5 were printed in the *American Journal of Numismatics*, including the following: "the mode of incusing legends detracts greatly from the effect and the from the legibility," "the flat surface gives the coins a crude and unfinished appearance," and, "the incused lines about the figures will serve as safe depositories for those bacterial enemies against which our scientists are constantly warning us," and, in conclusion, "we have yet to see any words of commendation of the new pieces from a recognized authority."

The Chicago Numismatic Society, under the presidency of Virgil M. Brand, cast its hat in the ring and drafted a resolution commending President Theodore Roosevelt for helping to create the Saint-Gaudens $10 and $20 pieces. At the time, Virgil M. Brand was busily accumulating what would prove to be the largest gathering of numismatically significant coins ever assembled by a numismatist, a vast holding which upon his death in 1926 amounted to approximately 350,000 pieces, including duplicates of great rarities. Brand, a bachelor, maintained his home and office in a building in his Chicago brewery facility. He literally lived coins, spending his personal time on little else. At the same time he was gaining specimens, he was gaining knowledge as well, and, indeed, at its December 1907 meeting the Chicago Numismatic Society awarded him a silver Proof coin "as a prize for test of memory in regard to the United States standard dollar." On other occasions, he was consulted by such scholars as Edgar H. Adams in matters involving attribution and authenticity.

After Brand's passing, the coins went to his two brothers, Armin and Horace. From the late 1920s until relatively recent times, distribution was accomplished by Virgil Brand's descendants, through direct sale and auction. Many of Virgil Brand's foremost prizes were acquired in later years by the Norwebs.

Elsewhere on the coinage production scene, in San Francisco one-cent pieces were produced for the first time. The 1908-S Indian cent made its debut with little notice, but it was significant as the first United States minor coin to bear a mintmark. At the time, cents were not a popular denomination in the American West, and there was relatively little call for them. Westerners preferred silver and gold coins, and it was not until 1912 that nickel five-cent pieces were produced there. The Indian cent motif then in use had been employed since 1859. The following year, 1909, it was discontinued in favor of the Lincoln cent.

In 1908 the Liberty Head motif was in use on the nickel five-cent denomination, a style conceived by Charles E. Barber, and which made its initial appearance in circulation in 1883. Unlike the higher-denomination coins, the Indian cent and Liberty nickel were not targets of popular criticism. Not so with the dime, quarter, and half dollar, the Liberty Head motif, later called the "Barber" style by collectors, designed by Charles E. Barber and first placed into circulation in 1892. Many, including President Theodore Roosevelt, considered these to be mere "tokens," rather than pieces worthy of our nation's stature. Even less in favor was the silver dollar motif, the style produced by George T. Morgan and placed into circulation beginning 1878. Morgan dollars were minted continuously from that point until 1904, after which coinage was suspended. In 1908 no dollars were produced. Among gold coins, the previously-noted denominations of $2.50, $5, $10, $20 were being made with the Saint-Gaudens $10 and $20 being favorably received, on balance, by collectors, and with the Pratt $2.50 and $5 receiving much criticism, as noted.

Among dealers engaging in a retail trade, among the most active were Henry and S.H. Chapman of Philadelphia. Partners for many years until they split in 1906, the Chapman brothers carried on an extensive trade with numismatists in all parts of the world. Henry Chapman in particular was

Proof-Only Half Cents of the 1840s

FROM 1840 TO 1848, half cents were struck only with Proof finish for inclusion in presentation sets. No examples were made for general circulation. Specialists today recognize three major varieties of each date: (1) original issues, distinguished by having large berries on the reverse; (2) First Restrike issues, with small berries on the reverse and with doubling of the word CENT and the wreath ribbon; and (3) the Second Restrike, an example which is shown above, with small berries, and with diagonal striations in the die above RICA of America. Certain other variants exist for some dates and are described by Walter Breen in his *Encyclopedia of United States Half Cents.*

responsive to collectors' want lists and participated in many memorable transactions.

Among the up and comers was B. Max Mehl, who started his numismatic trade five years earlier, and who did business from Box 826 in Fort Worth, Texas. "My next sale to take place in February will contain some nice stuff," he noted in an advertisement in the January 1908 issue of *The Numismatist*. At the same time he was launching *Mehl's Numismatic Monthly*, a periodical which combined a mix of articles, editorial material, and items for sale and which during the next decade achieved a wide circulation. In later years, Mehl became one of the brightest stars in the numismatic firmament and offered for sale for mail bidding many prominent collections, including Ten Eyck, Slack, Dunham, Atwater, and Neil.

Although B. Max Mehl was active on the collecting scene, and very much in evidence at the annual conventions of the American Numismatic Association, his primary source of revenue was *The Star Rare Coin Encyclopedia*, which he sold for $1 through magazine and newspaper advertisements, and even radio commercials in later years. By presenting the allure of finding a fortune in one's pocket, Mehl sold millions of these booklets. It is doubtful if anyone ever found a prized 1913 Liberty Head nickel in his change, or an 1804 silver dollar, or any of the other prime rarities which formed the focal point of Mehl's advertising, but there is no doubt that he helped spread the word about coin collecting, and that many people took up the pursuit of numismatics as a result. Indeed, in the 1930s the ANA gave Mehl a special award for his promotion of the hobby.

In New York City, the J.W. Scott Company, best known in the field of stamps, maintained an active coin dealership at 37 John Street. The firm published various "standard catalogues" "fully illustrated and quoting prices for thousands of copper, silver and gold coins" and invited readers to send for No. 1 which pertained to United States gold coins and silver coins of the world; and No. 2, which described copper, nickel, and brass coins of the United States and other countries. At the time there were no yearly price guides to aid collectors in determining coin values, so the Scott catalogues filled a need. The typical hobbyist was apt to derive his information from other sources as well, including scanning the offerings of coins for sale at fixed prices published in *The Numismatist* and various private catalogues and, especially prices realized in auction sales. By later standards, valuations were low. In February 1908 the Arnold Numismatic Company, of Providence, Rhode Island, offered a 1792 silver United States half disme for sale, described as Fine, very rare and "a very historical piece," for $12.50; a 1652 Massachusetts Pine Tree sixpence, Fine, for $9; an Uncirculated 1809 large cent, with partial original mint color, for $15; a 1794 half dime in nearly Fine preservation for $6; and an 1836 Gobrecht silver dollar, described as "semi-Proof," for $14.50.

Wayte Raymond, whose business was located in South Norwalk, Connecticut, offered a Fine 1793 Wreath cent for $7; a Very Fine 1794 coin of the same denomination for $8; an 1820 cent "Uncirculated, bright red" for $1.25; a 1797 half dime, 15-Star variety, nearly Fine for $5; a 1795 half dollar, Fine for $2; and an 1805 half dollar, Fine for $150. Raymond was at the beginning of what would become a brilliant numismatic career. Later, he incorporated the United States Coin Company, which handled many important properties, and still later became affiliated with Scott in New York City, still later engaging in business independently and publishing (beginning in 1934) the *Standard Catalogue of United States Coins*. Raymond did much for the scholarly aspect of United States numismatics, and in the 1940s was responsible for inspiring Walter Breen and John Jay Ford Jr. to embark on their research activities.

In 1908, as in later years, auctions created much attention. Prominent among those involved in the field were Henry and S.H. Chapman, operating independently in Philadelphia, B. Max Mehl, who was just beginning his series of mail bid sales, Lyman H. Low, and Thomas L. Elder. Other entrants in the field of auction and mail bid sales included the St. Louis Stamp and Coin Company, Ben G. Green, Herbert E. Morey, Charles Steigerwalt, and New York Stamp & Coin Company.

Of these auctioneers, the most vocal were S.H. Chapman, who formally signed his name as Samuel Hudson Chapman, and Thomas L. Elder. Elder in particular was ever willing to voice his opinion on just about anything, from politics within the American Numismatic Association, to current coinage designs, to the American government.

Collectors engaged in a wide variety of numismatic pursuits. In the era of low prices, many collected over a wide range of topics. It was not unusual for a typical holding to consist of series of United States copper, nickel, and silver coins arranged by date sequence, a drawer or two of tokens, some medals, and a few ancient and world coins. In American numismatics, colonial coins and large cents were especially popular, as were early silver pieces. Tokens and medals likewise captured the interest of many. Although Augustus Heaton paved the way for collecting coins from branch mints with his publication of *Mint Marks* in 1893, interest was still slow in starting, and by the year 1908 the typical numismatist cared less whether Barber-style dimes were being made at Denver, New Orleans, and San Francisco, in addition to Philadelphia. It was not until the following year, 1909, when the presence of a tiny "S" mintmark on a 1909-S V.D.B. cent caused a sensation with the public, and made branch mint Lincoln cents worth far more than their Philadelphia Mint counterparts, that collecting by mintmark became an integral part of the hobby. The year before, 1908, mintmarks were treated casually.

In 1908 the Philadelphia Mint produced 545 silver Proof sets, which gives an idea of the number of people interested in collecting silver coins by date sequence. As it was the practice to produce more than needed and to store extra coins "on the shelf," the true demand for such sets probably represented no more than three or four hundred separate individuals, if indeed that many. Minor Proof sets, consisting of the Indian cent and Liberty Head nickel, were made to the extent of 1,620 examples. It is doubtful if more than 1,000 were sold, including bulk sales to Henry Chapman and other dealers, and for years later the Mint still had remainders at hand, many of which were subsequently acquired in bulk by David Proskey.

Proof gold coins could be ordered individually, rather than in sets. According to mint figures, 236 $2.50 pieces, 167 $5

1793 Chain Cent

THE 1793 CHAIN cent represents the first major design in the United States cent series. The variety shown here is Sheldon-3 and has the word AMERICA spelled out in full on the reverse. Although the 1793 Chain cent is very popular with collectors today, at the time of issue it received much criticism. A Philadelphia newspaper printed the following letter on March 18, 1793: "The American cents do not answer our expectations. The Chain on the reverse is but a bad omen for liberty, and liberty herself appears to be in a fright. May she not justly cry out in the words of the apostle, 'Alexander the coppersmith hath done me much evil; the Lord reward him according him to his works!' " After being produced for just a short time, the Chain motif was replaced by the Wreath reverse.

pieces, 116 $10 pieces, and 101 $20 pieces were produced with Proof finish. The number of collectors desiring Proof gold sets at the time has been estimated to be only five or 10 individuals. The rest of the coins went to institutions, collectors desiring a Proof specimen of one favorite denomination or another, to members of the public who desired souvenirs, or to storage. Proof gold coins from 1908 until 1915 were of a matte finish, variously described as "sandblast," "satin," and "Roman," depending on the particular year and style. A number of different minor variations were made, none of which was popular with collectors, who preferred the "brilliant" or mirrorlike finish of earlier times. Today, students of the series believe that many, if not the majority, of Proof gold coins of the era were never sold and were subsequently melted.

Although the topic was discussed from time to time, and although the American Numismatic Association at one point named a committee to study the matter, there were no formal grading standards within the hobby. Each person had his own ideas, and commentaries of the time revealed that one person's "Uncirculated" might be another's "Extremely Fine." Adjectival descriptions were used in print, with such terms as Fair, Good, Very Good, Fine, Very Fine, Extremely Fine, Uncirculated, and Proof being employed. Modifiers such as "nearly" and "about" were occasionally used. A curious practice at the time was to grade scarcer coins differently from common ones. Thus, a rare 1793 Wreath cent, which had it been a relatively common 1794 might have graded just Fine, might be described in a sales catalogue as "1793, Very Fine *for the coin.*"

The lack of published standards was not a widespread concern, for most collectors were well-read, and before they made extensive purchases were apt to be acquainted with a given field of interest. Equally important, there were no great distinctions made concerning small grading differences, and many numismatists were simply satisified with a "nice" specimen of an early half dollar, for example, and it did not matter whether a later generation would grade the piece as Extremely Fine, AU, or Uncirculated, or whatever.

The total number of collectors belonging the American Numismatic Association and the various other societies was probably in the range of about 1,000 individuals within the United States. In a New Year's message to his constituents, ANA President Farran Zerbe stated early in 1908: "My observations cause me to believe that there are at least 3,000 within our active territory that have some interest in numismatics; and I believe that a good portion of this number would become members of the Association if they could have its object and advantages presented to them. Our present membership is less than 500; my hopes are for a thousand strong by the close of 1908."

Then, as in later years, the subject of politics was a hot topic within the ANA membership. In 1908 the proxy system was in effect. Each member received one proxy, enabling him to vote for various officers, policies, and other items. These proxies were transferrable, and those desiring office or seeking a particular advantage often solicited proxies from less active members. Thus, at an annual convention, which was apt to draw from 25 to 35 people, an attendee holding 100 proxies could virtually dictate what was being done, whereas the hapless member with only his own proxy in hand could accomplish very little. In later years, the proxy system was eliminated.

In 1908 the annual convention was held in Philadelphia, with Henry Chapman serving as host. "The average membership attendance at the different meetings and social events was about 30," according to a report in *The Numismatist*, which went on to note that:

> The opening social event of the convention was the reception at the home of Mr. Henry Chapman on Pine Street. The large parlor on the street floor and the spacious library on the second floor were thrown open to the members, who began to arrive about 8:00. Mr. and Mrs. Chapman received, and the gracious manner of Mrs. Chapman soon brought the unacquainted together, and the hub of conversation from all sides clearly demonstrated that fraternalism exists among collectors. About 9:00 a sumptuous collation of delicacies for which the Philadelphia market is so noted, was served in the dining room. As the members filed in, exclamations were heard on all sides at the beautiful appearance of the room and tables with a flow of decorations.

It was planned that S.H. Chapman, Henry's brother, was to co-host the event, but he was detained overseas by illness and could not attend.

During the convention numerous topics were discussed, including "uniform classification of the condition of coins," feelings concerning new coin designs, the lower than expected attendance (which was attributed to a discontinuation of the issuance of railroad passes), a dues increase for the ANA, and collecting topics. Lyman H. Low entertained convention goers with reminiscences of his many years in the field, and Captain John W. Haseltine, another old-timer, did likewise.

One evening Henry Chapman conducted an auction sale, at which 75 people attended, including numerous clients who were not ANA members. Prices realized included an 1879 Proof $4 Stella for $60; an 1841 half cent, original Proof $38; an 1848 half cent, original Proof $52.50; an 1849 half cent, original Proof $52.50; a complete Proof set of 1881 from the cent to the $20 for $96, and a set of 1882 for $105; an Uncirculated MCMVII $20 for $31; a 1796 half dollar with 15 obverse stars, Good grade, $61; a 1796 quarter dollar, Very Fine, $17.50; and a 1786 Immunis Columbia copper, Fine for $50. While the auction was going on, Henry Chapman's wife entertained the ANA ladies at the Park Theatre, where they saw *The Virginian.*

After the convention, a number of attendees journeyed to New York City where they took part in a banquet tendered at the Cafe Martin by Thomas L. Elder, an event which, according to reports, was "many times referred to as the largest and most notable numismatic gathering ever held." Interestingly, Virgil M. Brand, who did not attend the ANA convention in Philadelphia, was present at Elder's banquet.

The intense pressure of business activities kept Albert Holden from participating in the American Numismatic Association in an active way, but had he seen fit to have attended its various meetings during the next several years, or to have attended in person the sales conducted by its dealer members, he would have found a closely-knit fraternity of individuals who greeted each other warmly, and who were very enthusiastic about what gradually became known as "the world's greatest hobby."

would be a boy, and decided to name him after his father; but nature intervened and a second daughter was born on November 30, 1896 in Salt Lake City. Frustrated in his desire for a son, Bert insisted on naming the baby Emery anyway, taking his father's middle name. His wife extracted from him the concession of a feminine middle name, and the child was called Emery May. A third daughter, Katherine Davis Holden, was born in Salt Lake City two years later. Bert never had a son to carry on his name.

Only six years after his marriage, Bert's wife Katherine died. She had been recovering from an illness in Cleveland and was being looked after by a nurse. There seems to have been an accident involving the administration of her medication, and Katherine received a lethal overdose. Mother Mary Joseph related, from the same source mentioned earlier, the following story about her death:

> They had just moved to Cleveland and were planning to build a house when your grandmother died. Your grandfather [Bert] was in the southern part of Utah. He was in the court room testifying in some important lawsuit when he was handed the telegram and was told that it had bad news from Cleveland. He said, "I do not wish to see it until I have finished this testimony; but have a special train ready for me to catch the evening express on the Union Pacific."

After their mother's death the children were raised by an aunt and uncle while Bert was away on business. The family lived in Bert's house in Bratenahl, a suburb of Cleveland, built beside his father's. Little Emery May liked to play in her grandfather's picture gallery, where his art collection hung.

In 1908, eight years after his wife's death, Bert lost his first daughter to a sudden illness. Emery May Holden Norweb later believed that her older sister's death came about because Bert refused to allow an operation his doctors recommended. Bert felt the loss of his daughter more keenly than he had the earlier loss of his wife. In Elizabeth's memory Bert created a public arboretum, similar to the Arnold Arboretum at Harvard. Today, the Holden Arboretum located in Mentor, Ohio, is one of Cleveland's major attractions. R. Henry Norweb Jr. is currently Director Emeritus.

After Elizabeth's death, Emery May, then nearly 10 years old, became her father's favorite. He took her with him on mining expeditions, and she accompanied him on the last trip he made, to Alaska. Everywhere they went Bert treated her as if she was the son he never had, making no allowances for "feminine frailty." She was expected to keep up with him, whatever the circumstances. Once, when they were walking across a high trestle bridge, another lady in the party became frightened at the height and refused to go further. Little Emery May said she was frightened also, and sat down. Bert replied he wanted no cowards on the trip, so everyone got back up and continued.

Emery May was devoted to her father. Her aunt Robbie once found her asleep on the floor outside her father's bedroom door. After he died in 1913 Emery May was inconsolable for a long time.

CHAPTER THREE

Emery May Norweb

Early Life (1896-1916)

Emery May Holden was born in Salt Lake City, Utah on November 30, 1896. She was the second of Albert Holden's children. Bert Holden had hoped for a son and planned to name the baby after his father, Liberty. When Emery May was born Bert decided, in his typical fashion, to name her after his father anyway, conceding to take Liberty's other Christian name, Emery, which was neutral in gender, for the baby's first name. Bert's wife Katherine pursuaded him to allow her to give the baby a feminine middle name, and May was chosen.

Bert's choice of names for his daughter was significant. Her father treated her as if she were the son he had hoped for, and so Emery May received few of the allowances fathers usually make for the frailty they perceive in their daughters. Emery May was expected to bear hardship and physical pain as if she were a boy, and her father was unforgiving when she showed anything he considered weakness.

Bert Holden had been a noted athlete in college, and he kept himself in good physical shape throughout his life. He thought nothing of tramping through the hills of Utah or Nevada for days on end, looking for potential mining sites or outcrops of interesting minerals. When he took Emery May with him, she was expected to keep up the pace, without complaining. Some of the stories she told, in later life, about her father's unbending expectations for her are still remembered by her family. We have alluded to one (the railroad trestle incident) earlier in this book, and others could be described.

For example, on one occasion, while on a fishing trip in Alaska, Emery May thought to impress her father with her bravery by standing at the very edge of a rushing river, to cast further out than he could. The section of river bank she was standing on gave way, and she fell into the frigid waters and was nearly drowned. When she was pulled from the river she was suffering from hypothermia, so Bert gave her some brandy to bring her around. Apparently, she drank too much and became tipsy. This was thought a great joke at the time.

There are other such stories the family has remembered. The moral of them all is that Emery May had to live up to a very exacting standard that left little room for human frailty or failure. She grew up a quiet, introspective girl, somewhat self-conscious and unsure of herself. Once she had found herself, which she did thanks to the deep love that grew during her marriage, her father's lessons in self control and determined pursuit of a goal stood her in good stead.

Emery May lost her mother in 1900. She was only four years old, and the loss must have been devastating to the young child. She and her two sisters were thereafter raised by an aunt and uncle, since their father was away on business so often. Eight years later her elder sister died in tragic circumstances. After the death of her sister Elizabeth in 1908, Bert Holden made Emery May his favorite by default. She returned the attention with love that nearly amounted to worship. She emulated her father as much as she could, even to adopting his mannerisms. Her interest in coins from as early as the age of 12 can be explained, in part, by her desire to be as much like, and liked by, her father as she could.

Five years after that, in 1913, she lost her father to cancer. The aunt and uncle who had been raising the children then became their guardians. The succession of losses of close family members undermined her self-confidence even more than her father's unbending attitude had.

Very little incidental information has been recorded about Emery May's very early life, before she graduated from high school in 1916. She was born in Salt Lake City, where her father's business interests were then located, but whether she ever attended an early childhood school there is unknown. Her own earliest memory was of being cared for by a Chinese cook, probably the same who ran the Old Jordan Mine's cookhouse at the time. He had a parrot, which impressed itself on the young girl's mind as something very exotic and worth remembering. About the time of her mother's death, in 1900, the family lived outside Cleveland in their home in Bratenahl, a fashionable suburb of the city.

In 1911 Emery May was enrolled in the Westover School, located in Middlebury, Connecticut. Westover was, and still is, a boarding school for wealthy and fashionable young ladies. Among other students who were contemporaries of hers at Westover were Mary and Margaret Bush (aunts of Vice President George Bush); Marion Cleveland, President Grover

Cleveland's daughter; and several children of the DuPont and Rockefeller families. Emery May graduated from Westover in 1916, shortly before her 20th birthday. The reasons for her longer than usual stay at Westover are unknown today, but probably can be found in absences to accompany her father on several of his trips abroad.

The year 1916 was pivotal for Emery May in more ways than one. Not only was it her high school graduation year, an important event in any teenager's life; but it was also the year she met the man she would marry, as well as the year she left the United States. Apart from brief visits, and a two-year tour in Washington in the late 1920s, Emery May would not return to settle down in Cleveland until after 1948.

Early in the summer of 1916 Emery May Holden attended Harvard University's senior class dance, held prior to the June graduation ceremonies. There she met R. Henry Norweb, a young Englishman who was charming and well-mannered. She later told her children that it was mutual love at first sight. The feeling between the two was so strong that Henry is said to have proposed marriage on the spot. Emery May is said to have accepted, but as she was still under age and in the care of guardians, the couple could not marry without her family's consent. This was not forthcoming, however. Emery May and R. Henry agreed to wait, feeling that her guardians would change their minds eventually.

From 1916 to 1918 Emery May kept a detailed diary. The depth of her feelings can be seen from an entry, dated July 7, 1916, written aboard the train that was carrying her to Vancouver, British Columbia. When the train arrived at Elyria, Ohio, Henry Norweb's home town, he met it at the station hoping to see her to say goodbye. Emery May deliberately avoided seeing him. She wrote at the time: "Harry came to the train to deliver some pictures but he did not see us. I am very glad. I don't want to see him again until after several months work. . . I want my balance back again."

The train that was taking Emery May to Vancouver was the first stage of a voyage to Japan. She had still not gotten over the loss of her father three years earlier, and her guardians believed that an overseas trip might take her mind off her sorrow, as well as be a reward for finishing school. Her feelings for Henry Norweb may have made a trip overseas all the more imperative in her guardians' minds. After reaching Vancouver on July 12 (she had been traveling aboard the train for six days), her party, which included friends of hers from Cleveland, boarded the *Empress of Asia* and sailed for Yokohama, Japan the next day.

Emery May's diary is written with the feeling of a young woman who is just becoming aware of herself. Her style was highly descriptive, with a touch of the skill at poetry that had won her school's Masefield Prize for poetry. As befits a diary, the entries are introspective and not intended for anyone other than herself. They are, therefore, revealing of her true feelings.

She still felt the loss of her father very acutely, and her simple allusion to her feelings is poignant even now. As she traveled across the United States she retraced stages in the journey she had made with her father in 1912, on their way to inspect mine sites in Alaska. When the train reached the Rocky Mountain foothills she remembered her earlier trip with her father and wrote in her diary for July 11:

> The train goes on, and life goes on and we go on. The vastness of the mountains gives a feeling of strength, strength that has stood the tests of time, the only ones that count in the end. The horizon broadens rather than narrows as the mountains shut you in. Four years ago very nearly this same time of year I sat on the observation platform and looked at the mountains as they stood purple against the grey sky. It had been a hot trip over the plains to reach these heights, but that was a thing of the past. I would, within a few hours, be in the dark of night where the mountains would be nothing but part of the blackness. But I didn't care, that was a thing of the future, all I knew was that the mountains were wonderful, that I was sitting by my father, and that the sun was setting in a glory that should be remembered through the coming night. The sun did set, in more ways than one. . . .

Emery May's party arrived in Yokohama, Japan on August 24, 1916. Who chose Japan as a place to visit is unknown, but the decision was a daring one for the time, especially for young ladies. Anti-foreign sentiment was strong in Japan then, as it would remain through the 1950s, and westerners' movements were watched and closely controlled by the police. Emery May's spirit was adventurous, and we would like to believe that she chose Japan as her destination, but this cannot be known now. Whatever the truth may have been, after traveling to see the famous sights in Kyoto, Tokyo, and Kamakura, where they were allowed to enter the Tsurugaoka-Hachiman-ji, the god of war's temple (a rare honor for a foreigner), the party left Japan a month later and arrived back in Cleveland at the end of August.

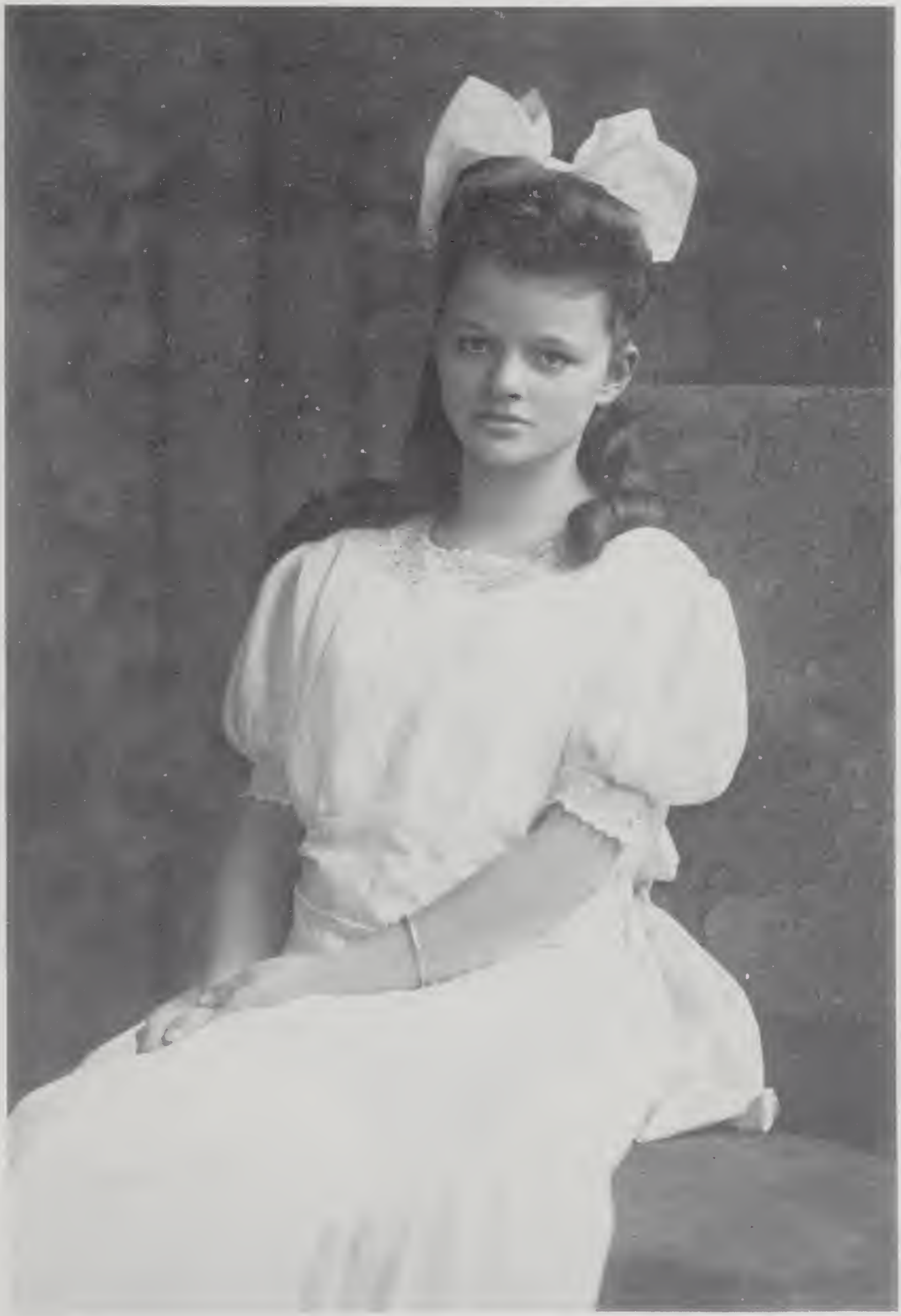
She was not to stay home for long. Before she left for her trip to Japan, even before her graduation from Westover, she had decided to test herself in some fashion where only her own native talents could help her out of difficulty.

Emery May was born into great wealth and social privilege, facts she was acutely aware of and which caused her some embarassment. She was very conscious of never wanting for anything she needed, and she seems to have wondered if she could ever accomplish anything on her own, without the benefit of her family's money and position. Some of her less well-off friends from Cleveland teased her, telling her that everything came too easily for her, and she took their taunting to heart. Her diary records her feelings in this way:

> Perhaps. . . I will get some more sympathy for others which everybody seems to think I lack . . . working for others where no one knows I have more than the clothes on my back—perhaps they will forget to say "No, you can't understand. It seems a little thing to you. You have never had to think of material things."

Through her grandfather Liberty's genealogical research into her family's history she had developed an awareness of her own place in history, and with that feeling came a sense of a great debt owed to her forebears. She wrote in her diary, before leaving for Japan:

> For nineteen years hundreds, yes, hundreds of people have given their work, their time, their patience, consciously and unconsciously, to fit me for life and now is coming the chance to test my powers, to see whether the machine they have equipped will run in spite of the flaws or will



Portrait photograph of Emery May Holden at the age of 13, taken in 1909.

Early United States Cents

1793 Chain
Sheldon-1

1793 Chain S-3

1793 Chain S-2

1793 Wreath S-5

1795 Jefferson Head, S-80

1794 Starred Reverse, S-48

1796 NC-2

1809 S-280

1838 N-11, Proof

1794 S-26

1794 S-35

1856 Flying Eagle

1877 Indian

ILLUSTRATED on this page are representative United States cents from the late 18th and 19th centuries. Among the pieces shown are three varieties of the 1793 Chain cent, including S-1, with the reverse inscription abbreviated to read AMERI. Then follow a 1793 Wreath cent, a 1795 Jefferson Head cent, and three varieties of 1794 coppers. The 1793 Jefferson cent is an enigma, and researchers are divided in their opinions as to whether it is a contemporary counterfeit, a pattern, or a proposal for a private contract to manufacture coinage. Other large cent illustrations include a superb 1796 NC-2 purchased by Albert F. Holden from the Wilson Sale, 1907; an 1809; and a Proof 1838. At the bottom of the page the 1856 Flying Eagle cent is illustrated, followed by the scarce 1877 Indian cent.

1821 Large Cent

THE 1821 PROOF CENT shown here is representative of the general design style minted from 1816 through 1835, and called the "Matron Head" by collectors. The designer is believed to have been Robert Scot. Within the year range indicated, 1821 is one of the scarcer dates. Proof large cents of the era are exceedingly rare today. During the 1820s they were made in small quantities, typically not more than a dozen or so of a given date, for presentation to visiting dignitaries, government officials, and others who desired them, in an era before coin collecting became popular.

Two-Cent and Three-Cent Pieces

1873 Two-Cent Piece, the last coin in the 1864-1873 series

1877 Nickel Three-Cent Piece

1852 Silver Three-Cent Piece

1858 Silver Three-Cent Piece

1864 Silver Three-Cent Piece

TWO-CENT PIECES were minted for circulation from 1864 to 1873. This was the first denomination to bear the motto IN GOD WE TRUST, which was later extended to use on other coinage as well. The mintage of two-cent pieces was high in the earlier years; business strikes were discontinued after 1872. Only Proofs were struck in 1873, the last year of mintage.

NICKEL THREE-CENT PIECES were minted from 1865 to 1889. All were of a similar design, bearing on the obverse a portrait of Miss Liberty wearing a coronet inscribed LIBERTY and on the reverse the Roman numeral III within an olive wreath. Large quantities were struck early in the series, after which production declined. Pieces dated 1877, 1878, and 1886 were struck only in Proof finish for collectors, and many of the other later dates were made in limited quantities.

SILVER THREE-CENT PIECES were minted from 1851 to 1873. The series consists of three different types. The first, Type I, was minted from 1851 through 1853, and has no outline to the star. The Type II design, made from 1854 through 1858, has three outlines on the obverse star. The final design, Type III, has two outlines on the star. Certain other design differences can also be noted, including an olive branch above the numeral and a bundle of arrows below on the Type II and III issues. Production of silver three-cent pieces was large in the beginning, dwindling afterward. Limited numbers were produced from the mid-1860s through the last year of coinage, 1873. Most surviving today are with Proof finish and were originally sold to collectors.

have to be helped throughout its entire course. Please, God, the test will be gone through successfully, but I am not overconfident.

Emery May recorded the test she had set herself in her diary. Under the entry for July 6, 1916 she wrote: "It came over me with such a shock that to get an appointment in the American Ambulance and to sail to France in September was within my power. I say was, is is more what I mean, for I am going if I have to move heaven and earth." True to her decision, she sailed from New York for Bordeaux aboard the *S.S. Rochambeau* on September 30, 1916. As a measure of the seriousness of her test, it should not be forgotten that the *Lusitania* had been sunk more than a year previously, and that German submarines were instructed to sink any surface vessel refusing to stop when so ordered.

France 1916-1918

The *S.S. Rochambeau* had an uneventful passage to Bordeaux, but the precautions the ship took against submarine attack frightened Emery May a little. One day out from Bordeaux, October 8, Emery May recorded in her diary: "Portholes blanketed. All lights out on deck. No lights in lower cabins. Stayed up until twelve." She must have been nervous so close to the French coast, as everyone knew that German submarines considered any vessel a day's sail off the coast a fair target for their torpedoes.

After staying overnight in Bordeaux, she boarded a train for Paris. Her diary entry is interesting, as it gives the reader some of the flavor of wartime France: "Tuesday, October 10. Got up early to take train for Paris. Crowded. French officers and soldiers. Many widows. Reached Paris six o'clock. Went up to Hotel Brighton. Paris quite dark. Heard of submarine raid off coast of U.S.A."

Emery May was accompanied to France by a Miss Upton, her guardians' choice as a chaperone. In Paris, the pair found hotel accommodations through friends, and three days later Emery May registered for volunteer work with the ambulance service.

The American Ambulance Emery May referred to in her diary was one of several humanitarian aid groups organized in the United States prior to our country's entry into the first World War. We do not know which particular ambulance group Emery May was attached to in 1916-1917. It may have been a local Cleveland organization affiliated with the American Red Cross, or part of the ambulance group organized as early as 1870, to assist victims of the Franco-Prussian War. Her diaries do not make her affiliation clear, and a check of the American Red Cross' archives does not reveal her name as an overseas volunteer with that organization.

Interestingly, Westover School, Emery May's high school, was active in American Red Cross affairs. In 1918, two years after she graduated from there, Westover organized a local chapter and paraded their junior nurses during commencement day celebrations.

The Cleveland chapter of the American Red Cross was active with preparations for assisting the war's wounded long before America opened hostilities with the Central Powers. On July 4, 1916 the Cleveland chapter established teaching centers for prospective nurses in houses along Euclid Avenue, the fashionable street in the city. There, nurses received instruction and supplies were readied for shipment overseas. Cleveland's social circle was not large, and notice of the teaching centers could not have escaped Emery May's attention. Six months later, an ambulance corps was organized among the undergraduates at Western Reserve University. In May 1917 the Lakeside Unit departed for France, where it received official status as American Red Cross Base Hospital Unit Number 4.

Her job, in the beginning, could not have seemed much of a challenge at all, as she was put to work wrapping parcels for soldiers at the front, writing letters and addressing envelopes, and other secretarial duties. Nevertheless, she faithfully showed up to work each morning, at least in the beginning. Her adventurous spirit was not satisfied with sedentary work, however, and she began looking around for other ways to test herself.

Her opportunity came at the end of October, quite soon after she started work in Paris. She was given the chance of driving an ambulance, but, despite her father's passion for automobiles, she had never learned how to drive one well. She failed her first driving test. A week later, after much practice, she passed her test and began driving heavy trucks that had been converted to ambulances. She did not drive at the front, but ferried ambulances from several garages to various depots around Paris. Most of the time the ambulances were empty. Sometimes she transported supplies to American sponsored "canteens" with names like Cincinnati, Chicago, and Boston. The driving could be long and hard, especially when the weather was bad and she was carrying a heavy load. As far as her diaries indicate, she did not transport battle casualties.

Emery May's volunteer work at this time was a combination of some secretarial duties, which she did not entirely give up, and ambulance driving in Paris. Much of her time was her own, however, and her diary records many shopping and sightseeing trips around the city. She went to cabarets popular at the time, some of which she found had "disgusting" reviews, such as the Aphrodite's; attended the opera; and visited American friends living in the city. Life in Paris was interesting, but not particularly challenging.

R. Henry Norweb was on the staff of the American Embassy in Paris, and with his help Emery May obtained an interview with the French Red Cross, the Croix Rouge Francaise. As a result of the interview, she was offered a posting to a French base hospital which received casualties from the northern Somme front. In January 1917 she decided to accept the posting, with her guardians' consent, and by early February she was working in the hospital as a nurse's assistant. Before she left Paris she made two entries in her diary. The first, dated January 11, 1917, reads: "Zeppelin scare. Not exciting." The second, dated February 4, 1917, noted: "Diplomatic relations broken with Germany." Air raids would become somewhat more exciting later, in 1918.

The hospital Emery May joined was Hopital Auxiliare 43bis of the Croix Rouge Francaise, located in St.-Valéry-sur-Somme (Departement de Somme), on the river northwest of Abbeville. In early 1917, St.-Valéry was far enough behind the front to be a quiet and secure area. Eight months later German troops were only 12 miles away, their furthest penetration during the Ludendorff Offensive. However, during her service with the Croix Rouge the northern Somme front was inactive, at least in the French sector the hospital served. The brunt of the 1917 fighting fell on the Canadians at Vimy Ridge and the British at Paschendaele. French forces were demoralized by the severe losses

of 1916, and 1917 saw mutinies in 16 French army corps. Emery May's service was with soldiers who had already received treatment in forward area hospitals and had been sent to St.-Valéry for convalescence.

Hopital Auxiliare 43bis had been founded by a Frenchman, M. Haurille, but the doctors and nurses were mostly Americans. Emery May was an amateur photographer, like her father, and she recorded her stay in St.-Valéry in an album she made from a nurse's notebook. Some of the pictures from this period in her album show a happy and friendly life, and she must have enjoyed herself, especially as she could finally say that she was passing the "test" she had set for herself. Many of the doctors' names were recorded in her notebook, among them, Doctors Fitch, Hoyle, and Donnelly. No photographs of Miss Upton, her chaperone, were included, and it is possible that she did not accompany Emery May so far from Paris.

There are no entries in her diary for the period she worked at St.-Valéry, from February 5 to July 16, 1917. Her photographic album probably served as her diary for this time. The pictures she took show wounded French soldiers arriving by train at the town station, with ambulances drawn up at the platform to receive them. There are rather graphic photographs of the operating room in action. Her friends among the nurses and doctors were faithfully recorded, as well as some among the patients whose wounds were severe enough to require long stays in hospital. She seems to have received no visits from family members or outside friends, so during her work at St.-Valéry Emery May was largely on her own, exactly as she had hoped she would be. The hospital was to be the arena where she could find out if she were capable of standing on her own two feet. Her experiences there made a lasting impression on her, and we can be sure she felt that she had passed her own test.

On July 17, 1917 Emery May left St.-Valéry and with some other nurses from the hospital drove to Compiègne about 100 miles away. She loved what she called "motoring." Her diary, which resumes now, records her trip this way: "Spent morning at barrack getting started. Left about four o'clock. First puncture fifteen minutes later. Second within the hour. Reached Compiègne about 9 o'clock." Motoring was not something that was done by the faint-hearted at the best of times. Driving along roads clogged with troop transports required some courage.

From Compiègne, she drove north to Noyon, where the train to Paris could be caught. The countryside over which she drove included the towns of Amiens, Ham, Montdidier, and Peronne, sites of great battles early in the war and scenes of battles yet to be fought. The landscape would have been shell shattered and pocked in places. The roads would have been heavily rutted. In places there would have been no trees left standing after a bombardment, and broken trenches would have criss-crossed her way. The smell of cordite and death would have been strong when their road paralleled the old front lines. The experience must have been sobering, even to one who had cared for the war's casualties in a hospital.

From Noyon she caught the first available train to Paris, traveling in a train filled with French and British soldiers. She arrived at her rooms in the Hotel Brighton late in the evening three days after starting out from St.-Valéry.

Diary entries for the remainder of 1917 are scant. Reference to some will be found later, but her life in Paris at this time cannot be described in detail until her diary resumes in 1918.

Early in January 1918 Emery May joined the Women's War Relief Corps, organized to assist the American troops who were arriving in France at this time. The fall of the Romanov dynasty in Russia went unnoticed in her diary, as did Russia's withdrawal from the war on March 3. Their effects, however, did not. Freed from a war on two fronts, the German High Command transported their armies from Russia and massed them along the center of the northern front. On March 21 the Germans launched the Ludendorff Offensive along a 50-mile sector of the Somme front. In a series of three coordinated attacks, lasting from March 21 until August 6, the German armies recaptured most of the ground they had lost in the years following the start of the war. By July 18 they had taken the very ground Emery May had driven across exactly a year earlier. At its height, the Ludendorff Offensive reached to within 50 miles of Paris.

From the start of the campaign in March, the Germans began shelling Paris with their long-range guns. Heavy Gotha bombers also participated by raiding the city at night. In contrast to what she had written a year earlier, the raids were now more exciting than Emery May might have wished. Her diary for the remainder of the war is filled with accounts of the effects the shelling and air raids had on the city.

She noted the start of the Ludendorff Offensive on March 21, writing; "Offensive began and shelling of Paris by long-range guns." The German attack along the Montdidier-Noyon front was noted on June 10, but the U.S. Marines' action at Belleau Wood, which helped blunt this attack, went unnoticed. Five days later the war came closer. Her diary for June 15 notes: "Raid began about 12. Lasted until 1:30 a.m. Rather lively. Bad fire seen back of Ecole Militaire." Two days later she notes: "Embassy advises all Americans to leave Paris because of danger of bombardment." A week later she was told to pack her things and be ready at a moment's notice to leave the city, as there was no sign of where the Germans would attack next.

On June 24 all hospitals in Paris were evacuated, because the Allies had learned that the Germans had concentrated their long-range guns and bombers and intended to open a heavy bombardment soon. Two days later, Emery May wrote: "Raid about eleven. Few bombs. Bad fire back of the Invalides." The next day, June 27, her diary records: "Raid at night. Very bad. Bomb fell about 300 yards away. Did little damage. Wounded or killed sentinel on guard. Hit in small square destroying near trees & glass in few houses."

Another raid followed the next day. The local prefecture of police warned her about the blackout, for she had not closed her curtains and light could be seen from her windows. On June 29 she slept in her clothes waiting for the night's raid, which did not come. The bombardment was becoming unnerving. The next day she wrote: "Raid started 12 o'clock, finished 1:00 a.m. Second raid 1:45 a.m. Finished 2:30 a.m. Did not sleep much. Guns at the front made a great racket."

The German offensive along the Montdidier-Noyon front died down after this, and the raids ceased, temporarily. They began again in July, when the third phase of the German attack started, the Second Battle of the Marne. On July 14, Bastille Day, France's equivalent of the Fourth of July, Emery May wrote: "About midnight began frightful bombardment. Lasted until four o'clock. Worst I have yet heard." The next day, a Monday, her diary notes: "Gun began firing in afternoon. Harry had holiday. Shells hit on the wheel, Greuelle [sic] station and in front

Photograph taken in 1915 of Emery May Holden. This picture was snapped two years after her father's death, and one year before her departure for France. At the time she was a student at the Westover School in Connecticut.

Photographs from Emery May Holden Norweb's scrapbook, taken during her work in France as a volunteer nurse at the Hopital Auxilaire 43 bis, in 1917. In the top photograph we see Emery May standing sixth from the left, identified by an arrow; below this photograph we see her seated in the back of an ambulance looking at the photographer; the photograph to its right is a view of the hospital; while the bottom photograph shows her in the dressings room.

of the apartment [where she lived]. Harry decided we should go to the Stern's for the night." Her apartment was near the French government's offices, a natural target for German guns. By July 20, she considered it unsafe to stay there much longer, and began planning to move as soon as possible.

There was no need to move, however. On July 18, Marshall Foch launched his counteroffensive, which halted the German attack along the Aisne-Marne front. From early August, when the British attacked along the Somme sector, until early November, the Allies pushed the German armies back, out of range of Paris. The guns fell silent on November 11, 1918. The war was over, and with it came an end to a period in Emery May's life. She had lived through events of historical importance, and in a small way, had tested herself against them. Her success at this, and her marriage later, provided the foundation for the self-confidence that was characteristic of her from then on.

Courtship and Marriage 1916-1917

Emery May's introduction to R. Henry Norweb, and their immediate feelings for each other, have been described earlier. The couple seems to have decided immediately that they should marry, but without her guardians' approval of the match they were forced to wait. After the Harvard senior dance, the couple went their separate ways.

Emery May set off for her trip to Japan in July 1916. Henry went to the American Embassy in Paris, where he acted as private secretary to the Ambassador. Shortly afterward, he received an official appointment to the embassy staff. We can be sure that the couple corresponded with each other during this time. Henry's influence in Paris helped Emery May obtain passport validation for France. Some in the Department of State felt Americans should not travel to a belligerent nation where their lives might be endangered, and legislation to that effect had been proposed by Senator Gore of Oklahoma early in 1916.

Emery May arrived in Paris late at night on Tuesday, October 10, 1916. The following Sunday she met Henry, and a friend of his from the embassy, walking along the Rue de Rivoli. That evening, they had dinner at Popardo's, a fashionable restaurant. Henry called on her the next day, and every day thereafter they met for tea, or a movie, or a walk in the Paris parks. The pair were always accompanied by a friend, or by Miss Upton, her chaperone in Paris, and it must have been difficult for them to communicate their feelings, given their lack of privacy.

On November 16 Henry formally proposed marriage, and they announced their engagement to their Paris friends. Emery May cabled her guardians with the news two days later, and was kept in suspense for nearly a week, awaiting their answer. When it came, her diary notes: "Cable came in afternoon. Not very satisfactory. Harry came over and had talk with Miss Upton [who, presumably, had received her own instructions from the guardians]. They decided we had better go back to old footing. It can't be for long." A second cable from her Aunt Robbie (one of her guardians) arrived with encouraging news shortly afterward, and she and Henry felt optimistic about finally gaining approval for their match. It was not to be, however. On December 7 Emery May received further encouragement from her Uncle Ben, but Aunt Robbie had had a change of heart and sent a discouraging cable to Miss Upton. The diary notes: "Engagement broken for six months."

Her diary hints that the couple were told not to see each other again. She recorded her "last talk" with Henry on December 9, and her "last dinner" with him on December 11. A month later she had decided to accept the hospital job at St.-Valéry, and early in February, 1917 she left Paris.

True to their word, she and Henry did not see each other while she was working at St.-Valéry. In late July 1917, she left the hospital and returned to Paris. She and Henry began seeing each other again, meeting for tea, dinner, trips to the opera, and so forth. Their feelings for each other had not lessened, and this was apparent to everyone who knew them, including the chaperone Miss Upton, who seems to have become an ally by this time. Henry enlisted the help of all his friends in Paris for the cause. In early September, Ambassador Sharp met with Miss Upton, ensured her that Henry had a promising career ahead of him in the diplomatic service, and Miss Upton communicated the gist of her meeting to Emery May's guardians. The Ambassador's support won them the day, and her guardians finally consented to her marriage with Henry. She was almost 21 years old, and it is likely that she would have married Henry as soon as she came of age even without her guardians' approval.

Emery May Holden and R. Henry Norweb were married in a French civil ceremony at the mayor's office on October 18, 1917. That afternoon a religious ceremony at the American Church confirmed the marriage. The Ambassador and his wife attended the reception later, at the Hotel Castiglione. Henry and Mrs. Norweb spent the night at the palace of Versailles and honeymooned at St.-Jean-de-Luz, near Biarritz. They returned to Paris a month later, to find an apartment furnished and ready for them, arranged by Henry's embassy friends. Emery May wrote in her diary: "November 16, 1917. Left St.-Jean-de-Luz for Paris. What a year!"

Mrs. Norweb's first child, named Raymond Henry after his father, was born in Paris on August 19, 1918. The hospital she had been taken to for her delivery apparently was targeted by German Gothas, the heavy bombers of the time, so Mrs. Norweb was rushed from the hospital to the safety of a bomb shelter before the raid began. There her first son was born. Shortly afterward, R. Henry Norweb, Jr.'s introduction to the world was again threatened, this time not by German bombers but by French officialdom.

After the raid was over and Mrs. Norweb and her son had returned to the relative safety of the hospital, a bureaucrat from the local registry of births visited her. The official complained that the baby's birth had not been registered with his department, in accordance with French law. Mrs. Norweb tried to explain to him that, as the son of a staff member of the American Embassy, international law accorded the baby his father's citizenship. Therefore, she said, the child was legally an American and was not subject to the French law requiring registry of all new births. The petty official had not encountered a situation like this before, and was plainly confused about what to do. Finally, after some head scratching, his patriotism rose to the occasion, and he declared "Madame, as far as France is concerned, this child has not been born," and he left. Little R. Henry Norweb, Jr. was then allowed to grow up, unmolested by officialdom.

Mr. and Mrs. Norweb's second child, Jeanne Katherine (named after her parents' own mothers), was born in Cleveland on April

Portrait photograph of Emery May Holden Norweb at the time of her marriage to R. Henry Norweb in Paris, October 18, 1917.

Nickel Five-Cent Pieces

1866 Shield with
Rays on Reverse

1867 Shield with
Rays on Reverse

1877 Shield with
Rays on Reverse

1885 Liberty Head

1915 Buffalo, Proof

1919-D Buffalo

1920-D Buffalo

NICKEL FIVE-CENT PIECES were first minted for circulation in 1866. The denomination and format proved popular, and pieces have been made down to the present day. The first design produced was the Shield motif, made from 1866 through 1883. Early issues, all 1866 pieces and some of 1867, had rays or bars on the reverse, a feature not used on later pieces. Liberty Head nickels were coined for circulation from 1883 to 1912, while Buffalo nickels were minted from 1913 to 1938, and Jefferson nickels have been minted since 1938.

The design of the 1866 Shield nickel, shown above in an enlargement, features an obverse somewhat similar to that used on the contemporary two-cent piece, with a shield and olive leaves. The number of Proof 1866 Shield nickels struck is not known, and various estimates have ranged from 125 to 500.

Half Dimes

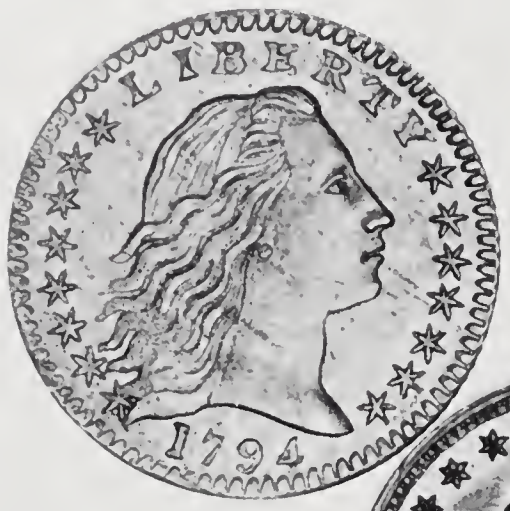
1794 Flowing Hair

1795 Flowing Hair

1797 Draped Bust/
Small Eagle

1800 Draped Bust/
Heraldic Eagle

1834 Capped Bust



1837 Liberty Seated,
No Stars

1841 Liberty Seated

1853 Arrows

1859

1859 Transitional

1866

HALF DIMES were minted from 1794 to 1873. Those dated 1794 and 1795 are of the Flowing Hair type and are similar in design to the half dollars and silver dollars of the same years. In 1797 and 1798 half dimes with Draped Bust obverse and Small Eagle reverse were struck, followed by the 1800-1805 coinage with Draped Bust obverse and Heraldic Eagle reverse. A lapse in coinage occurred after 1805, and the next half dimes coined were in 1829 when the Capped Bust type made its debut. This style was continued through 1837. In 1837 and in 1838 (at the New Orleans Mint only during the latter year, 1838-O) the Liberty Seated style without obverse stars was used. The design was by Christian Gobrecht, who modeled the piece after his illustrious silver dollar of 1836. The Liberty Seated with Stars style was used from 1838 through 1859. Certain varieties dated 1853, and all dated 1854 and 1855 have arrows have at the date to signify a reduction in weight. The 1859 Philadelphia Mint half dime is interesting inasmuch as the obverse stars are hollow at the center, an unexplained anomaly. The 1859 transitional coin shown on this page is a combination of the obverse die of 1859, with stars, and the reverse die of 1860, with HALF DIME within the wreath. On this particular issue the inscription UNITED STATES OF AMERICA does not appear, thus it is a "stateless coin." Half dimes from 1860 through 1863 bear UNITED STATES OF AMERICA around the obverse border, and a reverse composed of agricultural products.

By 1873, when the half dime was discontinued, the nickel five-cent piece had been in circulation for nearly a decade and had had taken the place of the smaller silver coin.

Dimes

1796 Draped Bust/
Small Eagle

1798/7 Overdate. 16 Reverse Stars. Draped Bust/Heraldic Eagle

1800 Draped Bust/
Heraldic Eagle

1814 Capped Bust

1822 Capped Bust

1829 Capped Bust,
Small Diameter

1837 Liberty Seated,
No Stars

1838-O

1842

1853 Arrows

1859 Transitional

1860-O

1887-S

1901-S Barber

1916-D Mercury

1921-D Mercury

DIMES, a denomination first minted in 1796, have been produced down to the present day. The 1796, the first year of issue, illustrates the Draped Bust obverse in combination with the Small Eagle reverse, a style also used in 1797. The 1798/7 overdate is the first year of the Draped Bust obverse in combination with the Heraldic Reverse, a format continued through 1807. The 1814 dime is the first year of the Capped Bust style on a large diameter planchet. The 1822 represents a scarce date of the same type. The 1829 dime is the first year of the Capped Bust style on a reduced diameter planchet, as made through 1837. The 1837 and 1838-O (New Orleans) dimes are of the Liberty Seated style without stars on the obverse, designed by Christian Gobrecht. This format was used only briefly and was replaced when stars were added to the obverse beginning on the Philadelphia Mint issues of 1838. The 1842 dime is a rare Proof from a presentation Proof set of the year. The 1853 dime has arrows and is typical of the general design produced from that year through 1855. A rarity is the 1859 transitional issue, a "stateless" coin which does not bear the inscription UNITED STATES OF AMERICA anywhere on the coin. The obverse, with stars, is of the general type used in the 1840s, while the reverse, with the large wreath and with the inscription consisting of ONE DIME, is of the general style used beginning in 1860. Only a few such transitional dimes are known. The 1860-O dime is one of 40,000 pieces struck that year at the New Orleans Mint just before the Civil War. The 1887-S dime is a representative later issue in the Liberty Seated series. Barber dimes, minted from 1892 to 1916, are represented by the rare 1901-S. The "Mercury" dime, designed by Adolph A. Weinmann, is illustrated by an early rarity in the series, the 1916-D issue. The 1921-D Mercury dime is also elusive.

1894-S Dime

THE 1894-S DIME is the most famous rarity of the denomination. More publicity has been accorded to it than any other. According to Mint records, just 24 specimens were struck, and of this number only about a dozen exist today. The reason for striking 24 coins is not known, and various theories have been forwarded. One has it that two dozen coins were produced to test the dies, when they arrived from Philadelphia (where all dies, including those with mintmarks are prepared). It was anticipated that a sizable coinage order would be forthcoming, and that many 1894-S dimes would be struck. No such production order materialized, leaving the total mintage at just 24. Another theory posits that at the end of the year there was an imbalance in the ledgers, and that 24 dimes, representing the amount of $2.40, were produced in order to clear accounts. The true story of the 1894-S dime may never be known.

18, 1920. Their third, and final child, Albert Holden Norweb (named for his maternal grandfather, Bert Holden), was born in Washington on November 20, 1921. Their parents deliberately timed the births to coincide with tours or long vacations in the United States, to avoid any difficulties about legal citizenship of the sort that had arisen over their firstborn's birth in France. This was just one of many adjustments Mr. and Mrs. Norweb had to make as a career foreign service family.

Life in the Foreign Service (1918-1948)

For the next 30 years, from 1918 until 1948, Mrs. Norweb acted principally as the wife of a rising young diplomat and the mother of three growing children. These were roles she enjoyed and found personally fulfilling. The observation that her own story is hard to pick out from the background of her husband's diplomatic career at this period would not have troubled her. She wrote in her diary, in a poem celebrating her marriage, that she had found in her husband the stability and security she never had before, and so, in most ways, their life together became more important to her than any separate life she might have imagined for herself.

Besides, life with Henry Norweb was very exciting and took her to places in the world and introduced her to people in it she may not have encountered on her own. There were new challenges to be met with every new posting Henry received, a new social circle to meet and fit into, and new places to explore. By the time she finally returned to Cleveland for good, in 1948, she had met two American presidents and nine other heads of state. She had lived in ten different foreign capitals and could communicate, in varying degrees of fluency, in four different languages. Along the way she had seen German and American secret agents at work, and her support had contributed to her husband's success in negotiating an extremely important treaty. She knew the Portugese dictator Salazar and the Cuban strongman Batista. In Havana she shared a pleasant afternoon painting seascapes with Winston Churchill.

Wherever the family was stationed she collected the art of the country in which she was living. Her collection of Peruvian textiles, of Incan manufacture, became quite noteworthy, and some of her Japanese and Chinese works of art are historically important. She later donated much of her collection to the Cleveland Museum of Art, just as her grandmother Delia Holden had done earlier.

Moving frequently from station to station could create unexpected difficulties. Her childrens' education was a problem at first, but the addition of a tutor from England to the family provided some continuity from one school system to the next. Both R. Henry, Jr. and his sister Jeanne went to local high schools in Holland and Chile, for example, where they had to deal with two very different sets of educational standards. Jeanne was sent away to a boarding school at one point. R. Henry, Jr. and his brother Albert were corresponding students with the Milton Academy, located outside Boston. Milton sent instructional materials and guidelines to the family tutor, Mr. Thomas Langdon, who taught the boys and returned their grades and papers to Milton. The presence of Mr. Langdon assured the quality of the children's education: Jeanne received her master's degree from St. John's University, R. Henry, Jr. graduated from Harvard with a degree in American history, and Albert studied archaeology at Harvard.

The family spent four years in Paris attached to the American Embassy there, from 1917 until 1921. In May, 1921 R. Henry Norweb was called to Washington to the Department of State's division of Western European affairs, and assigned work in connection with the Washington Conference on Limitation of Naval Armaments. After the close of the conference, in February 1922, the family remained in Washington for another year.

In August of 1923 Henry was offered the post of secretary to the embassy in Tokyo (his official rank was Foreign Service Officer Class Four, in the old classification). Like an assignment to Moscow would be today, Tokyo was then considered a challenging and potentially dangerous post. The Japanese military had joined with the political right and was steadily taking over the reins of government. Political assassinations were commonplace. Foreigners were universally considered to be spies and were escorted through the streets by soldiers with bayonets fixed to their rifles. The State Department told Henry that he must leave his wife and children behind if he took the position. Mrs. Norweb refused this order, and called on anyone she thought might persuade the department to change its decision. After some consideration, the State Department relented and allowed her to accompany her husband to Japan. The children were absolutely forbidden to go with them, however. They were sent to live with relatives in Cleveland.

The Far East

Mr. and Mrs. Norweb sailed for Yokohama early in September 1923 and arrived there on the eleventh of the month, just ten days after a devastating earthquake levelled the port and the nearby city of Tokyo. The earthquake, which occurred on September 1, killed or injured over 800,000 people; 13,000 were never found again. Both cities were destroyed, with over half a million buildings burned in the fires that followed the tremor. Property damage was estimated at $3 billion at the time. So extensive was the damage that Tokyo had to be entirely rebuilt.

Mrs. Norweb recorded with her camera what they found on their arrival, and some of her photographs of Yokohama accompany this section of the book. The city was still burning ten days after the earthquake. The local American consul had been killed when the consulate collapsed, and Henry may have been the ranking diplomat on the scene. His "consulate" was a tent, over which flew the American flag. Both he and Mrs. Norweb lived in tents for the first few weeks in Japan. The embassy building in Tokyo was in ruins, as well.

Earthquake tremors continued for months afterward. When they arrived in Tokyo, Mr. and Mrs. Norweb were housed in a wing of a summer palace, as the embassy had not yet been rebuilt. They kept their bags packed, in case of another earthquake. Mrs. Norweb told her daughter Jeanne that their bedroom was an ornate reception room, and that their bed was placed directly beneath a fancy chandelier. The earthquake everyone feared came in the middle of a night. The chandelier fell on top of her as she lay asleep, becoming entangled in her hair, but she was not hurt. Henry extracted her from it, and together they ran from the room, just in time, for as they crossed the terrace outside their bedroom windows and reached the open

LEFT: *U.S.S. Empress of Asia* entering Victoria, British Columbia, after having weathered the earthquake at Yokohama earlier. At the time of the earthquake she was just casting off and escaped with comparatively little damage.

RIGHT: Photograph taken by Emery May Norweb on October 6, 1923, showing Yokohama Harbor as it appeared when they arrived, aboard the *U.S.S. President Jackson*. The background is one of desolation and fire-gutted buildings.

LEFT: Photograph of the "United States Consulate General" in temporary facilities in Yokohama. The consulate building in Yokohama had been destroyed by the earthquake and subsequent fire, and the consul general himself had been killed. The consulate was housed in tents for several weeks after the earthquake.

RIGHT: Photograph of the staff of the Consulate General of Yokohama in October 1923. Emery May Norweb and R. Henry Norweb may be seen standing second and third from the left respectively.

This photograph, taken before the Norwebs' arrival in Japan, shows the Ninety Nine Step Tea House on the bluff at Yokohama. The photograph was dated by Mrs. Norweb as having been taken on August 31, 1923.

The same street seen in the preceding photograph, in a view taken in September 1923, showing the devastation caused by the Yokohama earthquake and fire. Nothing remains of the buildings seen in the earlier picture, and even the size and shape of the bluff appears to have changed through the work of the earthquake.

The wing of Princess Takeda's palace, where Mr. and Mrs. R. Henry Norweb spent the winter of 1923-1924. The embassy building had been destroyed in the earthquake and fire of 1923. This section of the palace was subsequently destroyed in another earthquake. The Norwebs' lucky escape from the collapsing building is detailed in the accompanying text.

R. Henry Norweb, seated on the left, accompanied by members of the American Delegation to Tokyo. Countess Watanabe is seated third from the left at the rear.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Henry Norweb accompanied by Japanese friends. Mrs. Norweb is standing second to the left, wearing a Japanese kimono; Mr. Norweb is standing in the very rear, the tallest figure, almost obscured. Among the Japanese friends are numbered Countess Watanabe, Count Akira Watanabe, and others.

garden, the whole house came down. They were both shaken by the narrow escape.

With the embassy's permission, Henry took his wife to Shanghai for a rest, but trouble found them there, too. China was in the grip of recurrent fighting between the Kuomintang, under Sun Yat-sen and Chiang Kai-shek, and various local warlords and splinter groups of communists. The cities of Canton and Shanghai were divided into enclaves where French, British, and other foreign nations exercised military and legal control. All factions in China, whatever their political leanings, resented the foreign influence; anti-foreign riots were not uncommon, although there had been a lull just before the Norwebs arrived.

Renewed rioting broke out in Shanghai shortly after they landed. Mrs. Norweb told her daughter that she remembered standing at the windows of the embassy in Shanghai, watching crowds of students pounding on the gates outside, until mounted troops arrived to drive them away. Henry decided that Shanghai was not safe, so they traveled inland by train, staying with a Chinese war lord to whom they had an introduction. Their plans for returning to Shanghai were delayed for some forgotten reason, which turned out to be another stroke of luck, as the train they were scheduled to take back was hijacked and the foreigners aboard held for ransom.

Later, to ensure their safety, the war lord loaned his chief executioner to be their bodyguard during the return journey to Shanghai. The chief executioner stood outside their compartment door on the train, his arms folded across his chest, a huge sword strapped to his back. Needless to say, the return trip was uneventful.

The Norwebs remained in Tokyo through most of 1924. It was not a pleasant place to be for foreigners, even ones with diplomatic protection. Inside the embassy life was normal, but outside the grounds the Japanese government placed restrictions on free movement around the city. Claiming the measure was for their own protection, the government assigned soldiers to escort the diplomats whenever they wanted to leave the embassy and tour Tokyo. Actually, the escort was there to keep the diplomats away from the common people: western influences were felt to be detrimental to the purity of Japanese culture. Even when she went shopping, Mrs. Norweb was accompanied by her armed guard. Close proximity over the months she was escorted by the same soldier soon had its effect, however, and while they never became friends, the soldier soon relaxed his military posture when in her company. On one occasion, while bargaining over the price of some clothing material, her guard told the shopkeeper that he was overcharging her and his goods were inferior, even for a foreigner. The soldier steered her to a better shop where prices were more reasonable.

The Norwebs left Japan late in 1924, traveling by steamer to Java (now Indonesia), where Henry had been instructed to report on a controversy over rubber production in the Dutch East Indies colony. His even-handedness impressed the local Dutch authorities, and when a new first secretary was needed in the American Embassy to The Hague, the Dutch government requested Henry Norweb for the post. The next four years found the Norweb family re-united in Holland, and they spent the years from 1925 to 1929 happily together. The tour was largely uneventful. Mrs. Norweb remembered in 1934 that what impressed her the most about the time in Holland was the extraordinarily large number of tourists who flocked to the country for the annual tulip season. Henry Norweb attended an international radio conference during this time, and gained his first introduction to a technical field that would later become a specialty of his in the service.

Latin America

In 1929 the Norwebs were assigned to Chile, where Henry was appointed First Secretary to the Embassy in Santiago. Their house was outside the city, and had a panoramic view of the snow-capped Andes Mountains. They spent weekends skiing in the Andes or playing tennis or golf nearer home. Their chief entertainment was the movies; Chileans in the capital were great fans of Hollywood "talkies," and the movies were not dubbed in Spanish, so there was no language barrier for the Norwebs. Henry found conducting diplomatic affairs very difficult since governments rose and fell with an annoying rapidity. No real civil wars broke out, but there was constant fighting for hegemony among the military branches. If the Chilean Navy didn't rebel the air force would, or the army would jump in to make trouble. Surprisingly, the police forces remained loyal to whatever government was in power at the time, so the capital was usually quiet and orderly. Mrs. Norweb was perplexed by the appearance of the fashionable women of Santiago. She remembered later that high society ladies all seemed to be wearing dresses that were heavily wrinkled, and she could not understand why they didn't take better care of what were obviously the latest Paris fashions. She understood the local custom better, when it was explained to her that the wrinkles were a sign that the dress had just been unpacked from its Paris designer's shipping box.

The Norwebs remained in Chile until late in 1933, when Henry was assigned as Counsellor to the Embassy in Mexico City, Mexico. They enjoyed this posting in particular, because they were closer to home than they had been before on other stations. Vacations and leaves could now be taken at their home in Bratenahl, near Cleveland, Ohio, and the family could spend more time together than in the past. The three years they spent in Mexico City, 1933-1936, were used to good effect. Mrs. Norweb created pleasant gardens at her Bratenahl home during leaves. Henry Norweb further strengthened his close ties to Latin America through his work with the Seventh International Conference of American States, held in Montevideo, Uruguay in 1933. Also during their tour in Mexico City Mr. and Mrs. Norweb made the acquaintance of B. Max Mehl, whose offices were in Fort Worth, Texas. The Norwebs' involvement with coin collecting resumed at this time.

The seven years from 1936 until 1943 found the Norwebs moving from one Latin American station to another, five different ones in all. Beginning with Bolivia, where Henry was sent in 1936 as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, they later moved to the Dominican Republic, Cuba, Peru, and back to Chile. Each new posting meant a new household, new staff, and new local customs to adapt to.

Mrs. Norweb described life in the foreign service to a reporter from the Cleveland press in August 1946, in these words:

> Diplomatic life is something you either like or loath. One has to have the knack of house keeping in every language. The servants at a new post want to tell me how to do

1876-CC Twenty-Cent Piece

THE TWENTY-CENT PIECE is the shortest lived of all regular United States coin denominations. First minted in 1875, production that year amounted to 39,700 pieces at Philadelphia, 133,290 at Carson City, and 1,155,000 at San Francisco. It soon developed that the public mistook the 20-cent pieces for the somewhat similarly sized quarter dollar. Confusion reigned, complaints were received from merchants and others serving the public, and after a small mintage in 1876 the denomination was no longer produced for circulation (although Proofs for collectors were made in 1877 and 1878).

In 1876 at the Carson City Mint, 10,000 1876-CC 20-cent pieces were struck. Surviving records indicate that the authorities at Carson City were directed to melt 20-cent pieces on hand, and this presumably included nearly all of the 1876-CC issues. Today, fewer than two dozen survive, most of which are in Uncirculated grade. It is believed that these may represent coins sent to Philadelphia for use in the Assay Commission proceedings that year. Traditionally, the 1876-CC 20-cent piece has been numbered among the great classic American silver rarities.

things. I let them go so far, then I go into the kitchen and make my specialty, an angel food cake. I tell the cook, when she can make a cake like that, then she can talk to me.

We have had amazing luck in my husband's diplomatic career of always being where interesting things have been happening. It started in Paris during the last war, then Washington and the disarmament conferences, and Japan at the time of the earthquake. We were living in Java during the revolution and the trouble in the Far East. In Holland we had four peaceful years.

It is difficult to leave a post once you are there. We are always dated up two or three weeks in advance. By now we have invitations through October.

It isn't all social life. In order to run the embassy efficiently, I work at my desk from 9 a.m. to 1 every day and have two secretaries working with me. It's like running a small hotel. I buy everything wholesale and get 150 lbs of meat at a time. There are important guests who have to be met. When Winston Churchill arrived, I arranged a large dinner party on a three day notice. Mr. Norweb is very busy. He comes back from the office and goes right into a dinner party where everything has been arranged.

Europe

In 1943, at the height of World War II, Henry Norweb was sent to Portugal with the personal rank of Ambassador, to take over some delicate negotiations with dictator Salazar which will be described in detail in the next chapter. Mr. and Mrs. Norweb departed from Washington, their plane stopping in the Canary Islands for refueling before continuing onward. According to a family story, which is partially confirmed by newspaper accounts published in 1946, their landing in Lisbon was timed for 3:00 a.m., to avoid German Luftwaffe fighter planes patrolling the coast looking for their aircraft.

Life in Lisbon during the last years of the Second World War resembled an Eric Ambler spy novel, full of stories of secret agents, plots, and double crosses. They had to be careful of what they said, to whom, and where, as German agents watched their movements and had listening devices planted around their residence. The Portuguese, ostensibly neutrals in the conflict, were very pro-German until the tide of the war turned against the Axis. Their discretion could not be counted on. Portuguese hired for the embassy staff could not be trusted absolutely, either.

The negotiations Henry was conducting on behalf of the United States dragged on for a full year. Back home, R. Henry Norweb, Jr. had become engaged and a wedding day had been set. Mr. and Mrs. Norweb arranged for a special plane to be waiting for them in Lisbon, ready to fly them to their son's wedding as soon as the Portuguese head of state signed the treaty papers. At the last moment dictator Salazar changed his mind, demanding revisions in the treaty's wording. The Norwebs were forced to remain in Lisbon, missing R. Henry, Jr.'s wedding. Salazar offered his apologies, and put a Portuguese plane at their disposal. Naturally, they refused the offer.

Toward the end of December 1944, with the Portuguese treaty signed, sealed, and delivered, Mr. and Mrs. Norweb left Lisbon by ship. As they stood at the ship's railing, looking at the city for a last time, they heard a tremendous explosion and saw clouds of smoke and debris rising from the site of the German Embassy, which had just been blown up. Henry turned to his staff for an explanation, but they all shook their heads and claimed to have no knowledge of the sabotage. However, everyone felt that it was a nice going away present for the Ambassador and his wife, and no one felt too interested in finding out who had arranged the "gift."

After returning to the United States, Henry was named Ambassador to Panama in February 1945. Three months later he was re-assigned to Havana as Ambassador to Cuba, for a rest and as a reward for service in Portugal. Havana was a comfortable post and the embassy there resembled a large country club, set on spacious grounds surrounded by palm trees. This was to be the Norwebs' final posting in the diplomatic service. Henry retired from the Department of State in 1948, with the rank of Career Minister.

During a short leave in Cleveland in June, 1946 Mrs. Norweb gave an interview to the press describing her life in Cuba. The following extract, from the *Plain Dealer* feature story, gives much of the flavor of Mr. and Mrs. Norweb's life at the height of his career. It is a fitting place to conclude this short account of their foreign service life together.

> Mrs. Norweb, a native Clevelander, is back home for an early summer rest at her Bratenahl residence. Her husband flew north arriving yesterday for a little holiday of his own.
>
> They are living on their estate in the small cottage originally built for a squash court but remodelled into a delightful and picturesque dwelling. It overhangs the bank of Lake Erie and from the windows those indoors can make believe they are on a ship, the lake is so close.
>
> This is a great change from the Embassy in Havana. Mrs. Norweb described it to me as a vast structure with formal halls and parlors on the main floor. She and Mr. Norweb have quarters on the second floor, where there is also a presidential suite opened for distinguished visitors, and several other guest rooms.
>
> Social life in ambassadorial circles in Havana is endless. Nowadays, American businessmen are constantly dropping in, and every plane from South America and from Europe brings more visitors. The Norwebs entertain all the time, often at luncheon, though she prefers dinners. "Things always seem to move more smoothly at dinners," she explained.
>
> The main dining room in the embassy is large enough to seat 60 guests. There is also a smaller one accommodating 18 places, and they dine there if and when they are ever alone.
>
> "I have made it a rule", Mrs. Norweb went on, "not to go out more than five nights a week and never more than two receptions a day."
>
> Receptions in Havana are held in the early evening, the usual dinner hour being 8:30. The ambassador and his wife can get in two [receptions] in a little more than an hour.

Reproduction of the front page of the February 22, 1976 issue of the *Sunday Plain Dealer Magazine*. In this issue Mrs. R. Henry Norweb was featured as the "grande dame" of Cleveland society.

Mrs. Norweb describes a "small" reception as one for about 200 guests, and she has given several of those since her husband and she arrived in Cuba last July. They were hosts to the American colony on Thanksgiving Day, and this party mounted up to nearly 600 guests. Later, the diplomatic corps was entertained at a reception of about the same size.

But, giving these functions doesn't bother her at all, for, as she pointed out, she has grown up in the diplomatic world, from being the bride of a third secretary about 30 years ago, to her present position as an ambassador's lady.

The Cleveland Museum of Art

Mr. and Mrs. R. Henry Norweb, Sr. had long been involved with the world of fine art and its collection. Emery May Norweb's connection reached back to her childhood, when she played in her grandfather Liberty's gallery where the Jackson Jarves paintings hung. She may have been present when Liberty's widow, Delia Holden, presented those paintings to the fledgling Cleveland Museum of Art in 1916. The Holden family had close ties to the museum from its earliest days, ties that would last through all the years Emery May Holden Norweb spent with her husband in their country's foreign service.

The Cleveland Museum of Art installed an exhibition of pre-Columbian art in 1927, and two years later established a department of primitive art, which focused on the early cultures of Central and South America. That same year R. Henry Norweb was assigned to his first Latin American posting, in Santiago, Chile. The Norweb collection of pre-Columbian art began in 1929, and the connection with the museum's activities in this field may not be entirely coincidental.

The Norwebs' first opportunity to aid the museum in a grand scale came during negotiations over the purchase of the famous Guelph Treasure, conducted August through November 1930.

The Guelph Treasure consisted of priceless medieval liturgical and religious artifacts, mostly of Saxon and Rhenish 11th and 12th century work, but also including objects dating as early as the 8th century. The nine objects that made up the treasure were originally relics from the treasury of the Cathedral of Saint Blasius, in Brunswick, Germany. The inventory of the collection included the following: a portable altar; two gold crosses once the property of the Countess Gertrude of Brunswick; a monstrance (a processional reliquary) containing a relic of Saint Sebastian; a reliquary of silver gilt and enamel in the shape of an arm; the so-called "Horn of St. Blase"; an 8th century medallion bearing a likeness of Christ; the paten (a liturgical object) of Saint Bernward, mounted in a Gothic monstrance; and a reliquary in the form of a book, exhibiting the Marriage Feast at Cana.

The treasure had a long and colorful history. During the Napoleonic Wars it was sent to England by the then Duke of Brunswick, for safekeeping. Returned to the duchy after 1816, it was again sent away for safety in 1895, this time to Austria. At the outbreak of the First World War, the Duke of Brunswick sent the treasure to Switzerland, again for safety. Following the war the duke, who was son-in-law to the last Kaiser, offered the treasure for sale through art dealers in Frankfurt-am-Main.

The Cleveland Museum of Art became interested in acquiring the Guelph Treasure at this time, and solicited funding from its patrons. Mr. and Mrs. Norweb subscribed to the purchase fund in a handsome fashion, and by November, 1930, the purchase was finalized. The total cost was $570,000, a staggering sum for the period, which was in the depth of the Great Depression.

The purchase established the museum's international reputation overnight, and the Norwebs' assistance with it further strengthened the bonds between the family and the institution. Two decades later, when the museum looked back over its first thirty five years and noted the three most important acquisitions made during its formative years, it was stated that the Holden and Norweb families together made two of them possible.

After their return to Cleveland in 1948, Mrs. Norweb in particular became very active in museum affairs. In the late 1950s she served as chairperson of the museum's inaugural committee, which was set up to arrange for the opening ceremonies honoring the new museum building. The cornerstone was laid in 1956, and when the new building was officially opened *Life* and *Look* magazines covered the occasion.

The culmination of a lifetime's involvement with the Cleveland Museum of Art came in January 1962, when Mrs. Norweb was asked to serve as president of the Board of Trustees. She was the first woman president of the museum, and the only woman to serve in that capacity in an institution of such world renown. When she was first asked to take the position, she said she gave it considerable thought. She reported that she asked herself the question, "was there any great harm she could do to the museum?" She told a reporter "I am a good gardener, yet every time I try to do anything with a fern, it dies. But, I concluded that the museum was sturdy and that I would do it no harm, so I accepted."

The appointment recognized her many benefactions to the museum over the years since her return to Cleveland in 1948. As she said at the time, "My home is quite denuded of pre-Columbian and Oriental works of art of any great interest, but I am happy with them all at the museum." Her presidency also benefitted from her easy familiarity with arranging receptions and formal ceremonies for large numbers of people, experience she had gained in many embassies around the world.

The *Plain Dealer* supported her choice as president in an editorial dated January 31, 1962:

> Accepting the presidency of the Cleveland Museum of Art is a gracious act on the part of Mrs. R. Henry Norweb. Her interest in and willingness to serve our civic and cultural groups is historic. But here is an instance where her talents and experience in the field of art can best be utilized for the museum's sake, which means for the benefit of us all.

1796 Quarter Dollar

THE 1796 QUARTER DOLLAR is distinctive as the first year of the denomination and also as the only year in which the Draped Bust obverse was used in combination with the Small Eagle reverse. Following a coinage of 6,146 pieces, production of the quarter dollar denomination was suspended until 1804, in which latter year a new motif, the Heraldic Eagle reverse, was introduced. The 1796 quarter dollar is a classic American rarity.

A similar design was used on other silver coins of the era, including half dimes of 1796-1797, dimes of 1796-1797, half dollars of 1796-1797, and silver dollars of 1795-1798.

Mrs. Norweb's acquaintance with art in its many forms is global. Wherever her husband served in the diplomatic corps of his country, Mrs. Norweb furthered her study of the art of the region. As a result she is an acknowledged expert in many art forms, being especially authoritative in the native art media of Latin America. She also has painted on occasions with that famous statesman who is no tyro with the brush, Sir Winston Churchill.

During her decade long presidency, Mrs. Norweb influenced the direction the museum took in several areas. Her most active interest was in the field of pre-Columbian art. There is an interesting story connected with her collection of early South American art. Apparently, she kept the collection in a large steamer trunk, which she carried with her to each new posting the Norwebs were sent to. On a visit back home in Cleveland she is said to have asked William Milliken, director of the museum from 1930 to 1958, if he wanted the contents of a grave. He replied "Certainly not," adding that the museum was not interested in archaeology. Five years later, during a dinner party at her home in Bratenahl, she opened the trunk and showed the contents to Milliken. "Emery May, don't touch it," he said, looking at the priceless Peruvian textile on top. "It's too valuable." When he saw the gold objects in the trunk, he insisted on locking them up in the museum safe that very night.

Among the many gifts Mr. and Mrs. Norweb made to the museum over the years, the following stand out as most significant. The collection of Peruvian textiles is one of the best of its kind anywhere. Funds for the purchase of additional textiles, and other pre-Columbian objects, were also provided by the Norwebs. Chinese and Japanese art was also represented among the donations, as well as funds for the purchase of important pieces of Chinese furniture. Henry Norweb's particular interest was in 18th century French ceramic ware, including some of the most important objects in the museum's entire collection. A large collection of glass paperweights was also donated. And finally, the collection of English gold coins, including pieces from Celtic times through 20th century issues, is one of the grandest ever put together by a private collector.

An appreciation of Mrs. Norweb's importance to the Cleveland Museum of Art can be found in a memorial address given by Sherman E. Lee, the museum's director during her presidency, which is extracted here:

Emery May was a Holden, and that immediately meant much to the world of art, in Cleveland and the larger world, for patrons of Italian Renaissance Art and had made it possible for the infant museum of 1916 to reveal something of the great achievements of that time. In her travels to the necessary diplomatic positions of her husband, the Honorable R. Henry Norweb, in Japan, Peru, Portugal, and others, she had trained her eye and mind to response and knowledge in the world of art. She learned through perseverance and discipline supported by gift and memory.

I was not a little bit afraid of Emery May before she was elected president of the Board of Trustees of the Cleveland Museum of Art on January 30, 1962. True, she had been a generous donor to my own Oriental curatorial department well before this time. Her quick and delighted positive reaction to the pair of Japanese screens of Iris by Watanabe Shiko, which she gave in 1954, both amazed and delighted me. She really *knew* a great deal about them; their subject and their previous owners, the Matsukata family. Her stay in Japan had provided her not only with the experience of the 1923 earthquake, but with the opportunity to sharpen her eye for Japanese art.

The next years were much occupied with plans for and then the construction of the new educational wing of the Museum, opened by President Norweb on February 2, 1971. She played a major, crucial role in that necessary addition. First, she recognized the justness of emphasizing the educational focus of the new construction. Her logic and gifted political sixth sense prevailed over less appropriate nomenclature. But above all, she recognized immediately the appropriateness of using a major architect, that the architect should be Marcel Breuer, who had just completed the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York, and that his daring and controversial suggested design was right for the specific place and function of the new wing. Without her full support and delight in creativity, I am certain the project would not have succeeded.

Quarter Dollars

1804 Draped Bust/
Heraldic Eagle

1815 Capped Bust,
Large Size

1831 Capped Bust,
Small Size

1853 Arrows and Rays

1863 No Motto

1873-CC No Arrows

1873-CC Arrows

1901-S Barber

1917 Type I
Standing Liberty

1918/7-S Overdate

1927-S

1932-D Washington

QUARTER DOLLARS were first minted in 1796. The denomination has been minted down to the present day. Shown on this page are a number of representative examples. The 1804, a scarce issue of which just 6,738 were minted, represents the first year with the Draped Bust obverse and Heraldic Eagle reverse, a style continued through 1807. The 1815 represents the first year of the Capped Bust style, with large diameter as used through 1828. The 1831 quarter is the first year of the 1831-1838 Capped Bust style of reduced diameter format. The 1853 quarter with arrows and rays represents the only year in which rays were used on the reverse. The 1863 is typical of the general style minted from the 1840s through 1865, without motto on the reverse. The 1873-CC Without Arrows is an extreme rarity, and only a few are known to exist. Although 4,000 were minted, it is apparent that nearly all were melted. The 1901-S quarter dollar is the most desired coin in the 1892-1916 series designed by Charles E. Barber. The 1917 Standing Liberty quarter, designed by Hermon MacNeil, is of the first type, with Miss Liberty's bosom undraped, and without stars below the eagle on the reverse, minted in 1916 and 1917. The 1918/7-S represents the only overdate variety in the Standing Liberty series. The 1927-S quarter, a scarce issue, illustrates a general design type with Miss Liberty clothed in a coat of mail, and with stars below the eagle, as used from late 1917 through 1930. The 1932-D Washington quarter represents the first year of issue of the John Flanagan design.

1827 Quarter Dollar

THE MOST FAMOUS of quarter dollars is the 1827 original, a Proof example which is shown above. It is distinguished from the restrike (an example of which is shown to the right) by having a curled base 2 in the denomination on the reverse (the restrike has a straight-base 2). Although Mint reports note that 4,000 examples were produced of the 1827 quarter, no business strikes (non-Proofs) have ever surfaced. It is probable that the mintage figure related to coins struck in 1827 but from earlier-dated dies, a common practice at the time. The only known 1827 original quarters are Proofs, from presentation sets made for government officials and dignitaries. In addition, four specimens were sold to young Joseph J. Mickley (born in 1799) for face value when he visited the Mint in 1827. The Norweb Collection Proof is one of the Mickley pieces.

1842 Small Date Quarter Dollar

THE 1842 SMALL DATE quarter dollar is one of the great rarities in the series. Examples were struck only with Proof finish, for inclusion in specimen presentation sets. Business strikes, or pieces made for circulation, were of the Large Date type with date numerals in larger format. The variety is sufficiently rare that typically a decade or more may pass between auction offerings.

CHAPTER FOUR

R. Henry Norweb, Sr.

Diplomatic Career

R. Henry Norweb, Sr. was born in Nottingham, England on May 31, 1895. His father was in the lace manufacturing business there, and had developed a method of making lace mechanically which showed promise of increasing production in the Nottingham industry. However, the new technology was not well-received by the local lace makers, who feared for their jobs if mechanization were introduced. Accordingly, Mr. Norweb's father emigrated with his family to the United States, settling in different communities just outside Chicago's North Shore during the 1890's and early years of the 20th century.

In 1907 the family moved to Elyria, Ohio. There, Henry Norweb's father ran the Elyria Lace Company. Later, he was in charge of the American Lace Company. In the interval, Henry Norweb had become an American citizen through naturalization. Mr. Norweb's father is said to have distrusted paper money and was known throughout his industry for paying his employees' wages in gold coins. The family prospered in America. Mr. Norweb's father retired in the early 1920s. He died in 1929 aboard a steamship off the coast of Africa, where he and his wife had gone on tour.

Henry Norweb attended high school in Elyria. After a year's study at Oberlin College, he transferred to Harvard, where he studied American history and philosophy. He graduated in 1916, intending to enter the foreign service, but although he took the examination for entry into the diplomatic corps, his application was not approved.

Henry then traveled to Paris, where William G. Sharp was United States Ambassador. Sharp and Henry's father had been friends together in Elyria, Sharp's hometown, and the Ambassador took Henry on as his personal secretary, without diplomatic rank. Shortly afterward, the Department of State reviewed Henry's application and examination results, and he was offered the entry level rank of Foreign Service Officer, Class Four. As Henry was already in Paris, serving as the ambassador's secretary, his position was made official, with the title of Secretary of Embassy.

Henry Norweb's diplomatic career spanned most of the first half of the present century, taking in two world wars, countless revolutions and social upheavals, and technological advances that could not even have been hinted at when his career began. It is far too long and event-studded to minutely describe in these pages; a separate book of its own would be required to do it justice. The highlights of his career are listed in an exhibit accompanying this text.

One or two particular observations about Mr. Norweb's career should be made, however. Early, during his posting at The Hague between 1925 and 1929, Henry Norweb attended an international conference set up to oversee the allocation of radio frequencies among the attending countries. This had become necessary because the airwaves were filling up with broadcasts from more and more local radio stations, and some form of control was needed to prevent more than one station from broadcasting over the same frequency. Mr. Norweb learned a great deal about frequency allocation through this experience.

In 1937, while Minister Plenipotentiary to the Dominican Republic, Henry Norweb acted as his country's delegate to the First Inter-American Radio Conference, which was held in Havana. The conference's objectives were essentially the same as guided the earlier meeting at the Hague, only with application to the western hemisphere.

The goals of the Second Inter-American Radio Conference, organized in Santiago, Chile in 1940, were a little different, however. Henry Norweb's experience in frequency allocation was again called upon, and he acted as the United States delegate to the conference. Henry's objective in the second conference was to control frequency allocation so as to exclude pro-Fascist broadcasters from obtaining access to the airwaves. In effect, this was an early effort by the United States government to cut off the spread of anti-American, pro-German propaganda in South America. In this, he was largely successful.

Henry Norweb's last position with the State Department, before his retirement in 1948, was head of the United States delegation at the International High-Frequency Broadcasting Conference, held in Mexico City. This conference was established to discuss allocation of high frequency channels used by television broadcasts.

We can observe that Henry's involvement in this technical area

Staff photograph of the officers of the American Embassy in Paris, 1916-1919. Seated in the center is Ambassador William G. Sharp. R. Henry Norweb is standing third from the left. At the time, Norweb's rank was that of Secretary of the Embassy, Class Three.

ABOVE: The consular conference held in Tokyo, March 21, 1925. R. Henry Norweb may be seen standing in the second row, second from the right.

RIGHT: Wire service photograph taken in 1923 of Mr. and Mrs. Norweb prior to their departure from Washington for the United States Embassy in Tokyo.

began in the 1920s, with the development of commercial radio broadcasting, and ended in the 1940s, with the early development of commercial television broadcasting.

Another observation about Mr. Norweb's career should be emphasized here. He advanced in rank, from third secretary in 1917 to Minister Plenipotentiary in 1936, faster than any of his contemporaries in the State Department. When President Roosevelt appointed him Minister to Bolivia in 1936, a rank equivalent to ambassadorial status, at forty five years of age Mr. Norweb was then the youngest career diplomat holding ambassadorial rank.

Mr. Norweb retired from the foreign service in 1948. He was then only 53 years old, and while his posting to Portugal three years earlier had been a difficult one, he was still comparatively young and could have looked forward to more years of service with the Department of State. The reasons for his early retirement are not entirely clear. It is certain that both Mr. and Mrs. Norweb enjoyed their new-found free time, and put it to very good use. The Norweb coin collection was largely assembled after 1948, for example.

His retirement may not have been entirely voluntary, however. President Roosevelt appointed Henry Norweb Ambassador to Cuba in March, 1945, shortly before the president's death on April 12. When President Truman assumed the office following Roosevelt's death, Mr. Norweb's appointment was confirmed, and he served in Cuba into 1947. During the 1947-1948 presidential campaign, which pitted President Harry Truman, the Democratic candidate, against Thomas Dewey, the Republican choice, Mr. Norweb appears to have supported Dewey's candidacy. President Truman's election in 1948 coincided with Henry Norweb's retirement from the foreign service. The two events may not be entirely unrelated.

The Azores Bases Treaty (1943-1944)

R. Henry Norweb, Sr. always considered the successful negotiation of the Azores Bases Treaty with Portugal the high point of his diplomatic career. Because of its importance for appreciating Henry Norweb's career, as well as its significance in the history of the Second World War and for today's geopolitics, it is worth spending some time describing the events that surrounded Mr. Norweb's negotiations for basing rights in the Azores Islands.

The Azores are a group of nine small islands lying about 800 miles off the coast of Portugal. From about the middle of the 17th century they have been Portuguese territory. Their location in the Atlantic Ocean makes the island group an important strategic position today. In 1943-1944, their importance to the Allies may have been even greater, particularly in the battle against German U-boats. A glance at any map of the world will immediately show why this was so.

Anti-submarine aircraft armed with bombs, torpedoes, and long-range fuel tanks could patrol most of the middle of the Atlantic Ocean from bases in Bermuda, Newfoundland, and the Azores. Similar patrols, based in England and the Azores, could effectively patrol and interdict German submarines leaving their pens along the western and southern coasts of France. Additionally, the west coast of Africa north of Dakar would also be in range of aircraft operating out of the Azores. Successful anti-submarine measures required that the western leg of the defensive triangle be anchored in the Azores Islands, in 1943-1944 as today.

When the subject of basing rights in the Azores first came up, early in 1943, the military situation facing the Allies put another, different priority on obtaining landing and refueling rights in the islands. Operation Torch, the invasion of North Africa 1942-1943, was facing stiff resistance from the German Afrika Korps in Tunisia. Missing from the invasion's strategic plan was a central refueling and transshipment facility near the African coast that could support the invasion's logistical needs. It should be remembered that in 1943 Europe was in German hands, Portugal and Spain were formally neutrals but actually leaning towards the Axis powers, and that the support of the regimes in France's African colonies could not be relied upon. Without bases in the Azores Islands, the campaign in North Africa would have to be supported entirely from England and the off-shore invasion fleet, putting the success of the campaign that much more at risk.

The conquest of North Africa, important as it was, was meant to be the first round in the more important battle for Italy. Possession of the North African coast was the key to the invasion of Italy, as it had been in Roman times. Logistical support for the coming Italian campaign would be more secure if transshipment facilities were available in the Azores.

A final factor influencing the Allies' strategic planning for the Azores Islands was the role they could play in supporting operations in the Far East. Material shipped from the United States across the Atlantic could be stockpiled in the Azores, safe from German aircraft attack, then transshipped by plane across north Africa, through Egypt, and reach bases in British India, where it could be used in support of Allied efforts against the Japanese Empire. As the war in Europe wound down in early 1945, the importance of bases in the Azores Islands to the war in the East grew.

Portugal's position early in 1943 was not encouraging for the Allies' hopes. She was one of Europe's largest producers of tungsten, a metal with the highest melting point known, vital for the manufacture of tank armor, as well as armor-piercing projectiles. Portugal was exporting the majority of her tungsten to Germany, across Spanish rail lines, despite pleas from the Allies to reduce the quantities of the metal she shipped to the Axis. To be fair to Portugal, however, it should be said that Germany was, after all, the biggest local market for war materials. As a neutral, Portugal could not very well refuse to sell to Germany, or even be seen to reduce her exports at the request of a belligerent power, without appearing to take sides in the conflict.

Additionally, and this was a point that weighed heavily on Prime Minister Salazar's mind, German bombers were only a few hours' flying time away from Lisbon should he steer his country in a direction that seemed to favor the Allied cause. In fact, Salazar believed that Germany would finally win the war, so there was no real point in upsetting the nation that would ultimately decide his own country's destiny. Salazar's neighbor, Generalissimo Francisco Franco, openly declared his support, moral if not practical, of the Nazis, and Portugal's land army was no match for Spain's. It was not in Portugal's national interest, therefore, to grant the Allies basing rights in the Azores. This was

1796 Half Dollar

THE 1796 HALF DOLLAR represents one of the rarest varieties in the series. Two styles were made, one with 15 obverse stars (as shown here) and the other with 16 stars. The obverse is of the Draped Bust motif, as used only in 1796 and 1797 on the half dollar denomination, and the reverse is the Small Eagle type, also used only during these two years. Just 3,918 specimens were minted of 1796 and 1797 half dollars combined, thus accounting for the great rarity of the issue.

Early Half Dollars

1797 Draped Bust/
Small Eagle

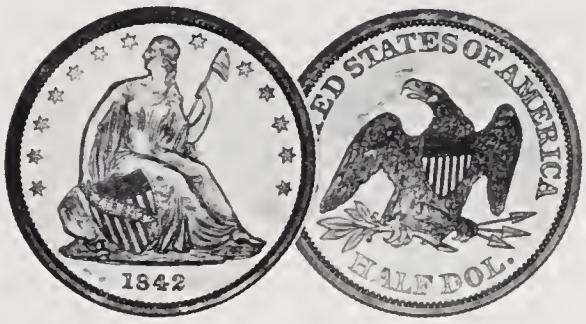
1807 Draped Bust/
Heraldic Eagle

1815/2 Capped Bust Left

1822 Proof

1827 Proof

1840 Liberty Seated



1842 Small Date

1846 Small Date

1853 Arrows and Rays

1861 Arrows and Rays

1873 Arrows

1901-S Barber

HALF DOLLARS, first minted in 1794, have been produced nearly continuously down to the present day. Shown on this page are examples of several early types. The 1797 half dollar represents the Draped Bust obverse and Small Eagle reverse used in 1796 and 1797. The 1807 illustrates the Draped Bust obverse in combination with the Heraldic Eagle reverse, minted from 1801 to 1807. The half dollars of 1815/2 (overdate), 1822, and 1827 are of the Capped Bust style with lettered edge, made from 1807 through 1836. The Liberty Seated half dollar, without motto on reverse, is of the general type made from 1839 to 1865 (after which the motto IN GOD WE TRUST was added above the eagle). In 1853 arrows were added to the obverse and rays were added to the reverse, to signify a reduction in weight. The rays were dropped after 1853, but the arrows were continued in 1854 and 1855. Arrows were again used on 1873 and 1874 half dollars, this time to note a slight increase in weight. The last piece shown, a rare 1901-S Barber half dollar, illustrates the design type by Charles E. Barber, minted continuously from 1892 to 1915.

1838-O Half Dollar

IN 1838 the New Orleans Mint opened for business, joining the Charlotte (North Carolina) and Dahlonega (Georgia) mints as the first branch production facilities apart from the Philadelphia Mint.

During the first year in New Orleans coins were struck in silver (to be followed by gold issues beginning in 1839). Denominations produced were the half dime, dime, and half dollar. According to mint reports, only 20 examples of the 1838 half dollar were struck. One of these, a glittering Proof, distinguished by an O mintmark above the date, is shown above.

Liberty Walking Half Dollars

LIBERTY WALKING HALF DOLLARS were minted from 1916 to 1947. The work of artist and sculptor Adolph A. Weinman, the motif made its appearance in 1916 as part of a redesigning of the American silver series. Weinman also produced the Mercury dime the same year, while Hermon A. MacNeil created the Standing Liberty quarter. The Liberty Walking half dollar quickly became a collectors' favorite, as it remains today. The obverse design was obviously inspired by Saint-Gaudens' motif used on the MCMVII double eagle. In 1987, when the United States government decided to issue bullion-type silver coins, it could create no new silver design to equal the Liberty Walking motif from history, so the Liberty Walking style was resurrected.

1916-S

1921

Salazar's position early in 1943, and he made it known both to the Allies and the Germans.

In the face of Salazar's reluctance to grant them base rights in the Azores Islands, the Allied Joint Chiefs of Staff had prepared a plan early in 1943 code-named "Lifebelt." This called for the seizure of the islands by military force. Churchill and Roosevelt understood that the consequences for the course of the war were dire, should this plan have to be put into operation, for Portugal certainly would have to declare war against the Allies, and Spain inevitably would have been drawn in on the German side. However, air bases on the islands were so necessary to the Allied effort that the consequences of their seizure were deemed worth the gain.

By the middle of 1943, Salazar had come to understand how strongly committed the Allies were to the goal of base rights in the Azores. Accordingly, when the British ambassador renewed discussions with Portugal about the Azores, Salazar decided to alter his position on the issue. Stating that Portuguese-British relations had been friendly before 1943, and recalling Wellington's campaigns in his country against Napoleon's army of occupation, Salazar declared that granting base rights to the British would only reflect their two country's long standing friendship and would not indicate a change in Portugal's status as a neutral. Shortly afterwards, Salazar agreed to lease land in the Azores, at Lagens, Horta, and Terceira, for the construction of air bases. However, the concession was to be for British use, exclusively. All other belligerents (meaning specifically the United States) were excluded from operating out of the airfields to be built by Britain in the islands.

The German and Japanese governments protested Salazar's concession to Britain, but by excluding United States' operations from the islands, Salazar hoped to mollify the Axis powers somewhat. He also increased Portugal's exports of tungsten to Germany. The German government continued its protests, but with its armies on the defensive in Russia, beaten in North Africa, and bearing the brunt of the fighting in Italy, the Nazi government was in no position to intervene militarily in Portugal. By the end of 1943, the British had constructed airfields and were conducting effective anti-submarine patrols from the islands.

While Salazar's concession to the British benefitted the Allied cause, his exclusion of United States forces meant that American aircraft and war material could not be stockpiled in the Azores. Since America really was the "Arsenal of Democracy," the Allied purpose in obtaining base rights there was still frustrated, and the effectiveness of the bases for the Allied war effort was only a shadow of what it could be if United States participation were allowed. Accordingly, American diplomacy in Portugal was directed towards three goals.

Following Salazar's concession to the British at the end of 1943, Chargé d'Affairs George Kennan, the ranking U.S. foreign service officer in Portugal, was instructed that his government desired to reach the following objectives as quickly as possible. First, he was to obtain Salazar's permission for United States forces to make strategic and tactical use of the British airfields in the Azores. This objective had the highest priority, since the Allies were planning the invasion of France for mid-1944, and the Azores bases would play an important role in the logistical support of the operation. Important as it was, this first objective was really only an interim one.

Kennan's second objective was to persuade Salazar to grant the United States bases of their own, independent of the British. This second objective was discussed in detail in cables sent to Kennan, and later Henry Norweb, from the Department of State. It was far-reaching in its simplicity, and its long term consequences seemed to have escaped Salazar's notice. Independent United States bases in the Azores reflected some of the underlying rivalry between the British and American general staffs, and this was, certainly, one of the objective's motives. Another was the potential importance American bases would have when the European war was won and Allied attention turned to the war in the Far East. Bases in the Azores would serve as important staging points on the air route from America to India.

The Department of State looked further than just the end of the war, however, when it weighed the importance of independent American bases in the Azores. The Department of State realized that, in the post-war world, air bases there would have strategic implications for the control of the European land mass in the event of hostilities with America's inevitable rival, the Soviet Union. The islands would have both strategic and tactical roles to play in the game of post-war geopolitics. They would also be commercially important to America's future, since the same refueling capability that attracted the United States Air Force to the Azores attracted Pan American Airways there.

A third objective of United States policy toward Portugal was to prevail upon Salazar to halt shipments of tungsten to Germany. Without Portuguese supplies of the metal, Germany would have to obtain this vital element elsewhere, and would face a delay until the new suppliers could increase production to meet the new demand.

By early December 1943, when he was recalled to Washington, Chargé d'Affairs Kennan had successfully negotiated United States use of British bases at Horta and Terceira and their extension and improvement by U.S. army engineers. R. Henry Norweb was appointed Ambassador (personal rank; in 1943 the United States maintained a legation, not an embassy, in Lisbon) to Portugal in November. For the first month of his tour he and Kennan worked closely together, allowing Norweb time to get the feel of the negotiations and to learn from Kennan the best way of dealing with Salazar.

On his arrival in Lisbon, Norweb cabled the Secretary of State with his understanding of the current state of negotiations, saying that if an agreement in principle could be reached with Salazar, the U.S. would still face "...the usual Portuguese proclivity for horse trading over details." Norweb felt that Salazar feared a German attack if he should give the U.S. what they wanted, and said that Salazar believed that the only effective Allied presence in Europe was Russian, implying that neither America or Britain could defend Portugal in the event of German bombing raids. Additionally, Salazar had raised the possibility that, if he conceded bases to America, Germany might prevail upon Spain for bases in the Balearic Islands. When Norweb replied to Salazar that the U.S. felt this to be very unlikely, Salazar stated "...one could never tell about Spaniards, who were capable of doing the most surprising things at the most unexpected moments."

George Kennan left Lisbon in December. Norweb cabled the Secretary on December 2, outlining Salazar's position on the issue as follows. No U.S. bases would be granted while Portugal was a neutral; no further bases would be allowed to the British until the war was going better for the Allies and a German threat

1794 Silver Dollar

THE 1794 SILVER DOLLAR is another of the great classics in American numismatics. The first year of issue of the silver dollar denomination, the 1794 was minted to the extent of only 1,758 pieces. Approximately 100 are known today.

The coin pictured here has an illustrious pedigree and is one of two specimens acquired by Lord St. Oswald, an English gentleman, when he visited America in 1795. It is believed that his itinerary in the United States included Philadelphia, and that this and other 1794- and 1795-dated coins were obtained at the Mint. Lord St. Oswald's coins were hidden away for over a century, until they came to light in the early 1960s and were sold in London by Christie's. Mrs. R. Henry Norweb bought one specimen, and the second Uncirculated 1794 went into the A.J. Ostheimer Collection. Today, these two rank as the finest known examples.

Early Silver Dollars

1795 Draped Bust/Small Eagle

1797 Stars 9 Left, 7 Right,
Large Letters

1802 Restrike

1850

1852 Original

SILVER DOLLARS were first minted in 1794. Production in the early years was continuous through 1803, after which production was suspended until 1836. (1804-dated dollars were first made years later, circa 1834). Following the production of Gobrecht silver dollars 1836-1839, the Liberty Seated design with obverse stars, and with a perched eagle on the reverse, was instituted in 1840. The motif was produced through 1873.

On this page are shown several varieties of early dollars. The first, a 1795 Draped Bust dollar with Small Eagle reverse, represents the first appearance of the Draped Bust portrait, inspired by artist Gilbert Stuart. Later, the same portrait was used on other denominations from the half cent through the half dollar. The 1797 dollar, with nine stars to the left and seven to the right, for a total of 16, represents a period in history which it was decided to add an additional star to coins each time a state was added to the Union. It was soon realized that the design would become too crowded, and beginning the next year the star count reverted to 13, representing the original thirteen states. The 1802 restrike shown here is one of a series of Mint restrikes believed to have been produced circa 1858-1860. At the same time dollars dated 1801, 1803, and 1804 were also struck, each sharing the same reverse die. The 1850 Liberty Seated dollar is a Proof specimen of one of the scarcer Philadelphia Mint issues of the era. A prime rarity in the silver dollar series is the 1852 original. Just 1,100 business strikes were made this year, of which number only a few dozen survive today.

Gobrecht Silver Dollars

1836 C. GOBRECHT. F. below base; reverse with eagle in starry field

1836 with C. GOBRECHT. F. on base; reverse with eagle in starry field

1838 with stars on obverse (as on all this year); reverse with eagle in plain field

1839 with stars on obverse (as on all this year); reverse with eagle in plain field

CHRISTIAN GOBRECHT, Mint engraver, prepared silver dollars in 1836, based upon a sketch of Miss Liberty seated by Thomas Sully, and a reverse design from a rendering by Titian Peale. The first patterns, of which 18 originals were struck, featured Gobrecht's name below the base of Miss Liberty, in the field above the date, rendered as C. GOBRECHT F., "F" for *fecit*, Latin for "made it." According to a letter published in the *American Journal of Numismatics"* in June 1867, the director of the Mint was very pleased with the design and asked Gobrecht to put his name on it, which he did. However, the press thought the idea was "conceited," and, hurt by this response, Gobrecht relocated his signature to a less conspicuous position.

Of the revised design, with name on base, 1,000 examples were struck in December 1836, utilizing planchets weighing 416 grains. In March 1837 an additional 600 were struck from the same dies, except that the dies were rotated 180° from the regular position. In later years, circa 1858-1860, further pieces were restruck, also with misaligned dies. Gobrecht dollars were produced with 1838 and 1839 dates as well. The Norweb Collection examples shown here illustrate the major types made. Three obverse types exist: (1) 1836, no obverse stars, C GOBRECHT F. in field; (2) 1836, no obverse stars, C GOBRECHT F on base; and (3) 1838 and 1839, with obverse stars; and the two reverse styles, (1) with stars in the field and (2) without stars in the field.

1870-S Silver Dollar

THE 1870-S SILVER DOLLAR is one of the great rarities in the American silver coin series. Mint records are silent concerning the quantity produced. Although about a dozen pieces exist, no coinage figures appear in the mint ledgers. The original coinage must have been very small, perhaps on the order of just a few hundred pieces.

The 1870-S dollar is the rarest of all silver dollar issues from the inception of the series in 1794, continuing through the present century, outranking even the famous 1804 silver dollar. The Norweb Collection specimen is the finest known.

The San Francisco Mint in the 1870s spawned two other extreme rarities, both of which are unique: the 1870-S half dime and the 1870-S $3 piece. No production records survive for the 1870-S half dime, and it is believed that just one or two 1870-S $3 pieces were minted.

to Portugal was unlikely; U.S. planes could use British bases in the Azores as long as they bore British markings and at least one of their aircrew was British; and U.S. army engineers could build an air base for Portugal's account on Santa Maria Island, its future use being left open for now. Norweb wrote "To us, this means that we have gotten not only the camel's head but a large portion of his remaining anatomy into the tent, and I think we should exploit this opening to the utmost."

The Secretary of State replied to Norweb's report on December 4, 1943, saying "I heartily congratulate you and Kennan on the rapid and substantial progress made."

Events moved quickly in January of the following year, too quickly for Salazar, it seems. On the strength of Kennan's and Norweb's report of December 2, the United States Joint Chiefs of Staff urged Secretary of State Hull to obtain the formal concession of the base on Santa Maria Island as soon as possible. In the meantime, the Joint Chiefs of Staff stationed a squadron of U.S. anti-submarine warfare aircraft (B-24s) on the British base at Lagens, but did not paint British markings on their fuselages as Salazar had stipulated. In addition, despite the lack of formal Portuguese authorization, the Joint Chiefs of Staff dispatched a Liberty ship carrying an engineer battalion and an armed escort to Terceira Island, with instructions to land and begin transporting equipment to Santa Maria for the base to be built there. A second engineer battalion was sent a few weeks later.

The presence of an American anti-submarine warfare squadron on Lagens was discovered by Spanish secret agents on the island, who quickly informed the Spanish Embassy in Lisbon. General Franco passed the information on to Germany, which immediately protested the violation of Portugal's neutrality to Salazar. Salazar was furious that American planes had been stationed on Portuguese territory without advising him first, and the failure to paint out their markings caused him to register a strong protest of his own with the British ambassador. Salazar was forced to make some highly creative arguments to the Germans and Spaniards, in an effort to explain away the American presence on Lagens. Norweb met with Salazar and assured him that British markings would soon be painted on the American planes.

No sooner had Norweb mollified Salazar over this issue when another, more serious problem arose. At 2:00 a.m. on the morning of January 9, 1944, Salazar was awakened by his aides and told that two American transports loaded with troops and escorted by naval vessels would soon arrive off Terceira Island. These, of course, were the first engineer battalion and its transport sent by the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff earlier, without telling Salazar. Not knowing what their intentions were, and believing the initial report which spoke of a much larger force than was actually there, Salazar instructed his local commander on Terceira to repel any attempted landing by force. He then called for the British ambassador, who was roused out of bed to hear Salazar's angry protest at the attempted invasion of Portuguese territory.

The British ambassador left Salazar and hurried to meet with Norweb to head off an armed confrontation that could be disastrous for both of them. Norweb reassured the Briton that he could explain the situation to Salazar, and made an appointment to see the Portuguese head of state that afternoon.

Norweb saw Salazar on the 9th, but it was not until 12 days later that Salazar relaxed and instructed his garrison on Terceira not to oppose the disembarkation of the American engineers. Norweb explained that the engineers were there to enlarge the British base on Terceira, which was not altogether true, and went on to say that another construction battalion was due to arrive at the island on February 17. He urged Salazar to alert the Terceira garrison about the impending arrival of the second convoy, to avoid a repetition of the crisis occasioned by the unexpected appearance of the first. For his part, Salazar insisted that the American squadron on Lagens had to leave. Norweb skillfully side-stepped the issue by replying that the planes now bore British markings, and so their presence was in accord with Salazar's earlier conditions. Salazar realized he was being presented with a *fait accompli*, and the planes stayed.

In March, 1944 Salazar was told that the British base on Lagens was to be used for support of operations in the European theatre of the war. The proposed American base on Santa Maria would be used exclusively to support operations in the Far East, and would not be built until the war against Germany had passed its height. The clear implication was that once Germany had been essentially beaten, Salazar's objections to an open American presence in the Azores would be obviated, since there would no longer be a threat of German attack against Portugal. In addition, he was told that Portuguese possessions in the Far East then occupied by the Japanese, in Timor and Macao, would be returned to him once they had been liberated. Norweb knew how strongly Salazar felt about the integrity of Portugal's overseas possessions, and he advised Acting Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius that the best way of gaining base rights in the Azores would be through promising to guarantee the post war integrity of Portugal's foreign colonies.

Linking American bases in the Azores to the future of Portugal's overseas territories seemed to Norweb the best way of reducing Salazar's objections, but he did not foresee the direction this gambit would take during the months that followed. By July 1944, Salazar began to insist upon the presence of Portuguese troops in the forces sent to liberate Timor and Macao, clearly because he distrusted Allied promises and wanted his own forces on the ground on liberation day. News of Salazar's interest in taking an active, hostile role in the war in the Far East reached German Army Intelligence (the Abwehr), which promptly notified Japan. On July 7 the German government advised Salazar that any action taken by the Portuguese against Japan would be construed as action taken against Germany. Salazar immediately began playing for time, hoping that Germany would fall before he was forced to make a decision that would affect Portugal's overseas colonies.

Further delay would not be borne by the United States, however. Norweb received a peremptory cable from the Secretary of State dated July 8, which instructed him to press for an immediate decision on the Santa Maria base. The Secretary advised Norweb that if the base were to support operations in the Pacific in 1945, it must be fully built before the end of 1944. Norweb was told that the Secretary was disappointed that he had not already gotten Salazar's approval for the base, and was instructed to confirm receipt of this cable by immediate return. Clearly, the stakes had risen now, and the game was more important than Norweb had at first thought.

Two days later, Secretary of State Hull raised the stakes even higher. He cabled Lisbon on July 10, 1944 instructing Norweb to tell Salazar that any further delay in the granting of United

The King of Morgan Dollars

MORGAN SILVER DOLLARS were minted continuously from 1878 to 1904, and again in 1921. The motif is the work of George T. Morgan, who came to the Philadelphia Mint from England in 1876. From the year of its introduction, 1878, until the end of the series, hundreds of millions of pieces were struck at the Philadelphia, Carson City, Denver, San Francisco, and New Orleans mints. Of all of these, the lowest mintage figure was posted by the 1895 Philadelphia issue; just 12,000 business strikes plus 880 Proofs. The 12,000 business strikes have never been accounted for and are presumed to have been melted in 1918 under the provisions of the Pittman Act, leaving just the survivors from the 880 Proofs as the supply available to collectors. The term "The King of Morgan Dollars" has been applied to the issue and is appropriate, considering its rarity.

States base rights in the Azores would jeopardize American support of the Portuguese economy. Norweb was advised to be blunt with this declaration, so that there would be no misunderstanding the importance the Joint Chiefs of Staff placed on the Azores. Norweb's instructions were repeated in another cable dated the following day, so there would be no doubt in the Ambassador's mind about the need for a quick resolution of the situation.

Norweb responded to Secretary Hull's cable of July 10 on the 13th. He wrote that he saw no need for being so gloomy about the prospects for obtaining base rights eventually. He felt Salazar was a wise leader, if a cautious one, and that he would come around in the end to the American position. Norweb went on to say that he felt matters were proceeding as fast as they could be expected to under the circumstances.

Secretary Hull cabled a reply to Norweb's soothing message the next day. Norweb was told to obtain, in writing, Salazar's replies to two questions: Can the United States build an air base on Santa Maria? If so, will the United States be in sole control of the base? Norweb was told that if no reply were received in the next two or three days, the entire project would have to be abandoned.

Unaccountably, Norweb's reply to this cable made no mention of its contents, or the urgency pressed by the Secretary. Instead, he concerned himself with asking for an immediate decision about the composition of an American delegation intended to meet with Portuguese military officers to discuss joint operations in Timor.

Four days later, on July 18, 1944 President Roosevelt wrote personally to Salazar, advising the Prime Minister that Paul Culbertson, Chief of the Division of Western European Affairs of the Department of State, would be traveling to Lisbon as the President's personal representative. Culbertson would discuss the urgency with which the United States viewed the matter of the Azores bases, and the need for an immediate decision on their status from Salazar.

Between July 18 and 22, when Culbertson met with Salazar, Norweb's cables to Washington were preoccupied with the minutiae of the negotiations. Following the meeting with Salazar, at which Norweb was present, the Portuguese head of state agreed to allow the landing of construction material necessary to the building of the base on Santa Maria Island. Roosevelt's personal intervention seemed to have worked. Secretary of State Hull advised Norweb not to press the issue of who would control the base once it was built, but rather, to get on with securing written authorization for its construction from Salazar, so there could be no further misunderstanding and delay.

To preserve the fiction of Portuguese neutrality, the authorization for constructing the base was awarded to Pan American Airways in the guise of a civilian, inter-island airfield. Earlier surveys of the site for the base had been made by American military personnel disguised as Pan American contract engineers. At one point in the early negotiations Pan American actually attempted to word the authorization so as to give the company exclusive commercial rights to the airfield after the war was over. The Secretary of State was forced to intervene, and personally warned Pan American not to confuse the issue in Salazar's mind! The fiction of the Santa Maria base being a civilian one fooled no one, least of all the Germans or Japanese.

As a sign of the complexity of these negotiations, it appears that at the same time that Salazar was delaying authorizing the construction, he was holding secret talks with the Japanese ambassador about a possible voluntary withdrawal of Japanese Imperial Army forces from Timor. Salazar's delaying tactics with Norweb were designed to buy time to see the negotiations with the Japanese through to the end. Had the talks been successful, it is possible that Salazar might not have agreed to an American presence in the Azores at all.

The authorization Salazar ostensibly gave to Pan Am allowed the company to construct an inter-island air base, implying it would be a small one. That this was a fiction everyone understood, including Salazar. However, when U.S. army engineers arrived to begin building the field, local Portuguese authorities refused to allow them to purchase more than enough land than was necessary to build a small airfield. Salazar backed their decision, and the United States was back to square one again. Once again, the president was called upon to intervene.

On October 6, 1944 Secretary of State Hull cabled Norweb with the president's personal message for Salazar. Norweb was instructed to say that Salazar's hesitancy about the size of the base on Santa Maria Island was incomprehensible. Further, any continued delay in the construction of a suitable air base would result in all economic aid to Portugal being cut off, and talks with the Portuguese about their army's participation in the liberation of Timor would be immediately suspended. Norweb was told to deliver this message at the next opportunity, and to be certain that Salazar fully understood its implications.

President Roosevelt's personal intervention re-emphasized the importance the United States placed on the air base on Santa Maria Island. Upon hearing his message, Salazar agreed to allow construction work on a large military base on the island. In return, Norweb gave his personal assurance that the question of Portuguese participation in Timor's liberation would be raised once again with the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Norweb then cabled Secretary Hull with the news about Salazar's approval, saying that the deal was a better one than the British had obtained a year earlier. Formal instruments allowing the United States to build and operate an air base on Santa Maria Island were signed on November 28, 1944.

Concurrently with the lengthy negotiations about air base rights, Norweb was working to persuade Salazar to suspend shipments of tungsten to Germany. Salazar continually protested that only a small fraction of the metal mined in Portugal was actually being shipped to the Axis, and that the vast majority of his mines' output was consumed in the home industries. Everyone knew that this was untrue, since Portugal's industrial base was not large enough to absorb the amount of tungsten known to have been mined before 1940, when figures were no longer published. The trouble was, the Allies did not know how much was being mined in 1943 and Salazar would not tell them. Consequently, Salazar's claim, although clearly specious, could not be formally countered.

Ambassador Norweb, therefore, cooperated with U.S. military intelligence in creating cover stories for officers sent to Portugal to discover the actual tonnage figures of tungsten shipped to Germany. The game of spies went on for some months, and eventually the real figures were found out. Nearly half of Portugal's tungsten output was going to the German war industry, not the fraction Salazar had claimed. Norweb confronted the Portuguese head of state with the figures, in a way designed to insure that the source of the information would remain unknown, but

1922 High Relief Peace Dollar

PEACE SILVER DOLLARS were minted from 1921 to 1935. The suggestion for the motif eame from the American Numismatie Association, whieh at its 1920 Convention passed a resolution that the silver dollar be redesigned. Anthony De Franeisei, a medalist and sculptor, designed the eoin using Teresa Cafarelli, who was to become his wife, as the model. The initial issues of 1921 were in sculptured high relief. However, it was found that the pieees did not strike up properly, partieularly at the obverse and reverse eenters, so in 1922 the design was revised to a shallow low-relief format. However, a very few High Relief 1922 dollars were produeed, probably fewer than a dozen totally, one of the finest of whieh, a beautiful Matte Proof, is in the Norweb Collection.

Formal photograph of the presentation of credentials ceremony. Ambassador Norweb is standing in front of the delegation. The scene is the Presidential Palace in Havana, Cuba and the date is 1945.

R. Henry Norweb, wearing glasses in the front row, his headphones removed, as head of the American Delegation to the International High Frequency Broadcasting Conference, Mexico City, 1948.

Honorable R. Henry Norweb, Sr.
Diplomatic Career (1917-1948)

1916-1917	Personal secretary to Ambassador William G. Sharp, United States Embassy, Paris.
March 16, 1917	Appointed Secretary of Embassy or Legation, with Class Four rank.
March 17, 1917	Official appointment to the United States Embassy, Paris.
August 23, 1917	Promoted to Class Three rank.
May 26, 1921	Assigned to Department of State, Division of Western European Affairs, in connection with the International Disarmament Conference.
March 26, 1922	Promoted to Class Two rank.
August 11, 1923	Assigned to United States Embassy, Tokyo, as Second Secretary of Embassy.
July 1, 1924	Foreign service grades re-structured. Classification now Foreign Service Officer, Class Four.
1924	Fact finding mission to Java, Dutch East Indies.
May 1, 1925	Reassigned to United States Embassy, The Hague, as First Secretary of Embassy.
1925	United States delegate to International Radio Conference at The Hague.
August 31, 1925	Promoted to Class Three rank.
July 25, 1929	Reassigned to United States Embassy, Santiago, Chile, as First Secretary of Embassy.
December 31, 1929	Reassigned to Department of State, Washington.
May 9, 1930	Promoted to Class Two rank.
May 26, 1930	Reassigned to United States Embassy, Santiago, Chile, as Counsellor of Embassy.
1933	Awarded Order of Merit, Commander's rank, by the Government of Chile.
1933	Appointed Counsellor to the United States delegation at the 7th International Conference of American States, Montevideo, Uruguay.
November 3, 1933	Reassigned to United States Embassy, Mexico City, Mexico, as Counsellor of Embassy.
October 1, 1935	Promoted to Class One rank.
1936	Appointed special advisor to the United States delegation at the Inter-American Conference for the Maintenance of Peace.
April 24, 1936	Reassigned to United States Embassy, La Paz, Bolivia, as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary.
April 22, 1937	Reassigned to United States Embassy, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary.
1937	United States delegate to the First Inter-American Radio Conference, Havana, Cuba.
1938	United States delegate to the 8th International Conference of American States, Lima, Peru.
1940	United States delegate to the Second Inter-American Radio Conference, Santiago, Chile.
January 12, 1940	Reassigned to United States Embassy, Lima, Peru, as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary.
1941	Chairman and United States delegate to the 3rd General Assembly, Pan-American Institute of Geography and History, Lima, Peru.
1943	United States member of the Committee to Aid the National Library of Peru and the Geographical Society of Lima, Peru.
November 15, 1943	Reassigned to United States Legation, Lisbon, Portugal, as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, with the personal rank of Ambassador.
May 4, 1944	United States Legation to Portugal raised to Embassy status; assigned rank of Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary.
February 9, 1945	Named Ambassador to Panama.
May 22, 1945	Reassigned to United States Embassy, Havana, Cuba, as Ambassador.
November 14, 1946	Appointed Foreign Service Officer of class of Career Minister.
1948	Appointed head of United States delegation to International High Frequency Broadcasting Conference, Mexico City, Mexico.
1948	Retires from foreign service.

Salazar replied that what his country did with its raw materials was no one's business but his own. Portugal was, after all, officially a neutral in the war. Pressure from the United States in this matter would jeopardize his country's neutrality; tungsten was so vital that a suspension might bring on a German attack.

All arguments against Salazar's position on this issue were unavailing. When Brazil joined the Allies and declared war on Germany in 1944, Salazar finally changed his mind and suspended shipments of tungsten to Germany. Salazar told Norweb that the thought of Portuguese speaking Brazilians dying under German tanks gave him no choice in the matter.

By the end of 1944, the three objectives of United States policy towards Portugal had been obtained. In the first place, the U.S. had received authorization for their planes to operate from British bases in the Azores. That interim goal reached, after some long discussions the second objective had been realized, and an independent American base had been authorized and was under construction. Finally, Portuguese shipments of tungsten, vital to the German war effort, had been suspended. Ambassador Norweb had played important parts in achieving each of these goals. When he was named as Ambassador to Panama early in 1945, he would assume his new post there with some pride in his accomplishments.

CHAPTER FIVE

R. Henry Norweb, Jr.

R. Henry Norweb, Jr.'s early years were mostly spent with his mother and father wherever they happened to be stationed, except for the posting to Japan in 1923, when he lived with his uncle Guerdon Holden at the family home in the Cleveland suburb of Bratenahl. As we have mentioned earlier, his education abroad was in the care of Mr. Thomas Langdon, the family's tutor. With Mr. Langdon's help, Henry survived the Dutch and Chilean educational systems.

In 1936 Henry entered Harvard, where he studied American history. He told the writers that he made this decision because he had lived abroad so much that it was time to get to know his own country better. He succeeded, and his senior thesis was on a most obscure aspect of American history—the cheese industry of Ohio! Henry graduated in 1940.

Henry had intended to go on to graduate school, perhaps to enter diplomatic service himself. He planned on entering Stanford in the fall of 1940. That summer, he took a job on the *Plain Dealer* and found he liked being away from the academic atmosphere so much that plans for graduate study were put aside. He enjoyed the newspaperman's life, and thought he might make a career with the paper his grandfather had created.

Events in the outside world decided differently, however. War with Japan and Germany seemed inevitable, and like most other young men of his generation, Henry registered for the draft. He received the lowest draft number of anyone on the *Plain Dealer*, and knowing that it was only a matter of time before he was called up, Henry joined the Ohio National Guard to have some say in the matter of his own future. By March of 1941 he was enlisted in the 107th Armored Cavalry Regiment.

The recruiting sergeant of the 107th needed radio experts. Henry told him that this was his lucky day, saying he knew a lot about shortwave radio, neglecting to tell the sergeant that his total experience with it was as a listener in Chile! Naturally, Henry was signed up on the spot, and on the strength of the sergeant's comments in his file, Henry was transferred to the Signal Corps, later to the Air Force in which he served for the duration.

After successfully completing the officer's candidate course, Henry was commissioned a second lieutenant and was sent to Harvard for three months, to complete the special radar course taught there. Following completion of this course, Henry was assigned to the headquarters of the 6th Air Force, located in Balboa, Panama, on that country's Atlantic coast. There, he was responsible for the maintenance of the radar installations that observed shipping and aircraft traffic in the Caribbean Sea, as well as the radar controlled anti-aircraft batteries and the airborne radar sets carried on coastal patrol aircraft. Henry served in Panama for two and a half years. During his tour there, he went through several advanced radar training courses, one in Florida and one in a secret facility on the campus of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. In 1946 Henry was discharged from the Air Force, with the rank of captain.

While Henry was stationed at Harvard, taking the first of several radar courses during his stint with the Signal Corps, he met his future wife, Libby Gardner. Libby is descended from an old Maine family; her grandfather, Obadiah Gardner, was Maine's first Democratic senator. Libby graduated from the University of Maine, Orono, and took a library science degree at Simmons College.

At the time of their first meeting, Libby was a librarian at the Maine State Library, and they met at a wedding where he was best man and she was a relative of one in the wedding party. Two days later, Henry was assigned to his post in Panama. The "chemistry" between them must have been as strong as that between Henry's mother and father, earlier. A year later, when Henry returned from Panama to take the advanced radar course at M.I.T., he again met Libby in Washington. By then, she had become a WAVE (Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Services, the women's reserve of the US Navy) officer, and was working on a joint civil aeronautics board in the capital.

Three days after their second meeting they were engaged. After a two month radar course in Florida, Henry traveled up to Libby's family home in Maine, and the couple was married two days after his arrival, in September, 1944. Henry and Libby Norweb have three children: Harry, born in 1947, now general manager of Trident Corporation, a Massachusetts software development company; Emery May Miller, born in 1949; and Constance Abbey, born in 1952.

After demobilization Henry returned to the *Plain Dealer*. On the strength of his wartime experience, the paper assigned him

Portrait photograph of R. Henry Norweb, Jr., taken in 1983.

to the engineering section of the radio stations it owned. There, he oversaw the installation of the first FM station to broadcast in Cleveland. However, he soon realized that there was not much future in radio engineering, so he joined the sales staff of radio station WHK in Cleveland, where he worked for a short while.

The growing popularity of television cut into radio advertising revenues and Henry's future in radio sales seemed limited. Accordingly, Henry joined a small, local Cleveland company which manufactured domestic products, and worked with them for five years. When he left, he had risen to become operating vice-president.

In 1959, Henry was appointed executive director and vice president of the Holden Arboretum, located in Kirtland Township, outside the City of Cleveland. The Holden Arboretum had been founded by Albert Fairchild Holden, in memory of his daughter Elizabeth, who had died at a young age. Albert was familiar with Harvard University's Arnold Arboretum, and the establishment of a similar institution in Cleveland appealed to him. The Arboretum, as originally planned, was to be located on 50 acres of the Lakeview Cemetery, in Cleveland itself. Plans for the original site were drawn up by the Olmsted Brothers, designers of the facilities in New York City's famous Central Park, among other sites. However, factors such as the growing shortage of building space in the city, as well as the increasing amount of air pollution near Cleveland, made an alternative site seem more appropriate.

Accordingly, in 1931 the terms of Albert's will were legally altered to allow moving the site of the proposed arboretum outside Cleveland. The new location was to be on 100 acres of land contributed by Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin P. Bole (Mrs. Norweb's guardians during her minority, 1913-1917) in Kirtland Township. Over the next 56 years the Holden Arboretum grew in size to encompass 3,000 acres which required the services of 34 full time staff members for its maintenance and operation. The Arboretum maintains today over 3,800 different species of plants and over 3,000 other accessions.

R. Henry Norweb, Jr. tells the story of his selection as executive director of the Arboretum this way. As a board member, he was asked to locate a suitable individual with the required skills and experience. He told the writers: ". . . so, I started searching for someone to fill that job and, somehow or other, going around the corner one day, I met myself coming the other way, and that's how I got into the Arboretum!"

Henry's earliest introduction to coins came sometime in 1930 or 1931, during one of the family's biennial summer leaves from duty in Chile. Every other year the Department of State allowed a two month leave, and the Norwebs would when possible travel back to their home in Bratenahl, outside Cleveland. Henry and his sister remember one summer in particular, when they were both set to work attributing large cents and Connecticut state coppers in what was then the Albert Holden Collection. At that time, Henry was only 12 and his sister was even younger. Despite the difficulty of the job their mother set them, Henry's enthusiasm for numismatics was nurtured! He remembers that counting berries on the reverses of 1794-1807 large cents and noting the differences between stars and cinquefoils on Connecticut coppers of 1785-1788 "cured" him of these two series, however.

It should be remembered that in 1930-1931 Dr. Sheldon's reference work on large cents was nearly two decades away from being available, and that Miller's catalogue of Connecticut coppers did not contain sufficient plates to make attributions easy. The job of attributing two of the most difficult series of American coins is hard enough today, even with Sheldon's reference and several important plated auction sales of Connecticuts available. At the time Mrs. Norweb turned her children loose on these two areas, the job would have been daunting to an experienced numismatist let alone youngsters who had never seen an early copper coin before.

Henry remembers he always preferred to work with federal coins, particularly quarters and half dollars. He always enjoyed the two and three cent denominations, as well. In the early period, before the family's return to Cleveland in 1948, very little work was done on the gold coins in the collection. That was left for later. Henry remembers that he could recall having heard the names of many of the old time dealers, like Lyman Low, Henry Chapman, and B. Max Mehl; he says it was an enjoyable experience to walk through the Hall of Fame at ANA headquarters in Colorado Springs and see pictures of the men who had only been names to him until then.

Mrs. Norweb encouraged Henry, and the other children, in taking up and staying with a hobby, especially when they were posted overseas. She felt, he recalls, that a hobby was a good way of keeping the children occupied, especially as they were in foreign countries where they did not know the language and had few American friends their own ages. In Holland, Mrs. Norweb helped the children begin a set of small cents; presumably, coins brought from home by travelers and embassy personnel filled the gaps in their collections. They also continued the family stamp collection at this time (their grandfather's collection of stamps, still intact, is an important one even today). Mrs. Norweb decided that as soon as the children were old enough to read a coin's denomination or a stamp's value, they were old enough to begin collecting themselves.

His mother's encouragement proved fruitful, for today R. Henry Norweb, Jr. maintains an active interest in United States and Brazilian numismatics. Through his close association with the American Numismatic Society, as first vice president of the Council, Henry participates in the important undertakings of the ANS. He is a member of the American Numismatic Association, as well as the Sociedade Numismatica Brasilera (the Brazilian Numismatic Society), and the Central States Numismatic Society.

Among his many appointments and honors may be mentioned the following. Henry has been director of the American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta; director of the American Horticultural Society; and mayor of the Village of Bratenahl, Ohio (1956-57). He has been a trustee of the Cleveland Audubon Society and the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, and the Western Reserve Historical Society. He is presently on the board of the John Huntingdon Fund for Education; the Musical Arts Association of Cleveland; and the Cleveland Council of World Affairs. In 1983 he was awarded the Professional Citation from the American Horticultural Society. He is a member of the Boothbay Harbor Yacht Club and the Union Club of Cleveland.

Photograph taken in the 1970s, showing R. Henry Norweb, Jr. to the right and Homer Jacobs (since deceased) to the left. They are examining a rare species of plant. At the time, R. Henry Norweb, Jr. was Executive Director of the Holden Arboretum. (Photograph courtesy of the Holden Arboretum)

Group photograph taken on the occasion of the opening of the 1973 International Numismatic Congress, on the steps of Audubon Terrace, at the entrance to the American Numismatic Society, New York City. Mr. and Mrs. R. Henry Norweb, Jr. are ninth and tenth from the left (below the wrought iron post to the left of the center sign; he holds an envelope bag in his left hand).

1885 Trade Dollar

THE 1885 TRADE DOLLAR is one of American's great classic rarities. It is believed that just five specimens were struck. The trade dollar was first minted in 1873, to create a coin to circulate in commerce in the Orient. At the time, the standard United States silver dollar weighed 412.5 grains. Mexican "dollars" were slightly heavier and were preferred by Chinese merchants. The situation was remedied by minting the U.S. trade dollar, which weighed 420 grains. Millions of examples were struck for trade purposes from 1873 through 1878, after which time no business strikes were made. Proofs for collectors were coined through 1883, in which year 979 were struck. Although collectors knew that "pattern" strikings of 1884 trade dollars had been made in copper, the existence of silver Proof 1884 and 1885 trade dollars remained a secret until William Idler, who had close connections to the Mint, announced in 1908 that 10 of the former date and five of latter date had been coined.

Gold Dollars

1850

1855-O

1875

1886

GOLD DOLLARS were first minted for circulation in 1849, although patterns of this denomination were prepared as early as 1836. The gold dollars are divided into three styles, Type I, minted from 1849 to 1854, Type II, minted from 1854 through 1856 (San Francisco Mint only in 1856), and Type III, minted from 1856 through 1889.

All three types were the work of Mint engraver James B. Longacre. The Type I is a miniature version of the $20 double eagle design and features the head of Miss Liberty facing left, wearing a coronet on which is inscribed LIBERTY. The Type II design displays the Indian Princess motif. Miss Liberty now wears a feathered headdress, her head is differently styled, and the reverse wreath has been changed from a simple one of laurel to an "agricultural" wreath made of corn, tobacco, cotton, and wheat. This same wreath was subsequently used on Flying Eagle cents (1856-1858). The Type III gold dollar, the last style minted, has the portrait of Miss Liberty redesigned, larger in area, and shallower in relief. The reverse is a modification of that used earlier. One of the rarest of all gold dollars is the 1875 Type III. Just 420 specimens were coined, consisting of 400 business strikes and 20 Proofs.

Quarter Eagles

1796 Capped Bust to Right, No Obverse Stars

1796 Capped Bust to Right, Obverse Stars

1808 Capped Bust to Left, Large Diameter

1821 Capped Head to Left

1834 Classie Head

1841 "Little Prineess"

1854-S

QUARTER EAGLES, or $2½ gold pieces, were minted from 1796 through 1929. The first issues of 1796 had no obverse stars, a variety of whieh 963 were minted. Later issues of 1796, continuing through 1807, featured the Capped Bust to Right portrait, with obverse stars. In 1808 the Capped Bust to Left style, large diameter, was made. Produeed in this year only, the issue was struek to the extent of 2,710 pieees. After 1808 no quarter eagles were coined until 1821, at which time the Capped Head to Left style, with E PLURIBUS UNUM on the reverse, appeared. This motif was continued through 1834. In 1834 the Classic Head made its appearance, and the motto was discontinued. In 1840 the Coronet or Liberty Head quarter eagle was adopted. This style was used through 1907, the longest span in United States history of any uninterrupted, unchanged eoinage design. Among quarter eagles of this type is the 1841, a great rarity, known as the "Little Princess," an example of which is shown here. Another rarity in this series is the 1854-S, a coin of which only 246 were struck. From 1908 through 1929 the Indian Head style was made, after whieh the denomination was discontinued.

1910 Indian

1875 $3 Gold

THREE-DOLLAR GOLD PIECES were minted continuously from 1854 to 1889. All are of the same basic design as shown above, except that those of the first year, 1854, have the word DOLLARS in significantly smaller letters. Among Philadelphia Mint issues the rarest coin by far is the 1875. No business strikes were made for circulation, and only 20 were reported to have been coined for collectors, although it has been argued that a few additional ones may have been struck. The population today stands in the range of 20, more or less. Over the years the 1875 has always been recognized as a classic American rarity.

Early $10 Pieces

1796 Capped Bust to Right/
Small Eagle

1797 Capped Bust to Right/
Small Eagle

1797 Capped Bust to Right/
Heraldic Eagle

1798/7; 7 Stars Left, 6 Right

1800

1804

CAPPED BUST EAGLES, or $10 gold pieces, were minted from 1795 through 1804, with the exception of 1802. After 1804, a lapse occurred, and no further pieces were made until 1838. Shown on this page are a number of varieties from the early series. The designs are similar to contemporary $5 pieces of the same era. At the time the $10 piece was the largest American gold coin (the $20 double eagle did not appear in circulation until decades later, in 1850).

1815 Half Eagle

AMONG HALF EAGLES one of the most famous issues is the 1815, of which only a dozen confirmed examples exist. David Akers, an authority on United States gold coins, has written: "Without question the 1815 half eagle is one of the most famous and desirable of all United States coins. A few other coins, even of this type, may be more rare, but with the exception of the 1822 half eagle, it is unlikely that any other United States coin is more desirable. As far back as the late nineteenth century the 1815 was highly regarded as a rarity."

Half Eagles

1795 Large Heraldic
Eagle Reverse

1797 Small Eagle Reverse

1798 Large 8,
14-Star Reverse

1804 Small 8 over Large 8

1806 Pointed 6

1823

1825/1 Overdate

1859

1860

1862

1863

1887

1910 Indian

1914 Indian

1929 Indian

HALF EAGLES, or $5 gold pieces, were first minted in 1795 and were continued through 1929. Examples bearing the date 1795 exist in two main styles, the Heraldic Eagle type as illustrated here, by far the rarer of the two, and the Small Eagle reverse. The 1797 half eagle displays the Small Eagle reverse. Mintage of the Heraldic Eagle and Small Eagle reverses overlapped, and coins with the Small Eagle reverse were struck during the dates 1795, 1796, 1797, 1798, while those with the Heraldic Eagle reverse were minted with the dates 1795, 1797, and other years through 1807. The 1798 half eagle is of the style with Large 8 on the obverse and with 14 stars above the eagle on the reverse. The 1804 has the second numeral of the date as a smaller figure over an erroneous larger numeral. The 1806 has a pointed 6 in the date, and the stars are arranged 8 to the left and 5 to the right (in other varieties of this year there is a round 6 in the date, and the stars are arranged 7 to the left and 6 to the right). The 1823 half eagle is a rare date. Although 14,485 were struck, only a few dozen are known, very few of which equal the condition of the one shown here. The 1825/1 overdate is another major rarity in the series. Proofs of 1859, 1860, 1862, and 1863 are of the general style without motto on the reverse. All were produced in limited numbers, with the mintage of the 1863 being just 30 pieces. The 1887 is a rarity in the half eagle series, for only Proofs were made; none was struck for general circulation. The 1910 half eagle is a Roman Finish Proof and illustrates the incuse style by Bela Lyon Pratt introduced in 1908 and continued through 1929. The 1914 is of the Matte or Sandblast Proof format. The 1929 half eagle, a rarity, is the last date of the design type.

CHAPTER SIX

The Norweb Collection

Early Years (1905-1914)

Emery May Holden Norweb took an early interest in coins, clearly due to her father's influence, also perhaps due to encouragement from her grandfather Liberty Holden, as well. At the age of ten, in 1905, she was given her first coin, a Braided Hair type half cent, date unknown. The coin probably came to her from her grandfather. The inventory books and card files of the Norweb Collection do not mention this coin, and presumably it is no longer in the collection.

Many years later, Mrs. Norweb told friends that she remembered 1907 as being the first year that she began buying coins herself, using her weekly allowance to make purchases from dealers her father trusted. There are no purchase records in her own name dated that early, however. In 1908 she bought two Braided Hair half cents from Scott Stamp and Coin Company's Chicago branch, paying $3.25 for them, which she remembered was her total allowance for two weeks. At about $1.60 each the half cents must have been either high grade or rare dates, or both, given the pricing of the time. For example, an EF-40 1808 G-2 bought from David Proskey in 1909 cost $2.00. A Proof 1857 G-1, bought from Thomas Elder's sale of the Peter Mougey Collection (1910), cost $2.25. Unfortunately, neither of the two half cents she referred to can be identified specifically in the collection today.

Emery May became more involved in her father's coin collecting activities early in 1908, following the death of her older sister Elizabeth in February of that year. Her sister Elizabeth had been her father's favorite, but after her untimely death Albert Holden focused his attention on young Emery May. From 1908 until her father's own unexpected death in 1913, Emery May was his confidante, record-keeper, and collaborator in his collecting hobby. She seems to have maintained his inventory records, keeping them up to date with each new acquisition, listing coins by denomination, date, condition, vendor, price paid, and pedigree. Where relevant, she included standard reference numbers: Crosby for colonial coins, Hays-Frossard for 1794 large cents, etc.

Some of the information Emery May recorded for her father's collection was kept in a copy of the 1893 edition of Scott Stamp and Coin Company's *Standard Coin Catalogue—Silver and Gold.* Emery May noted in her specially-bound copy of this early price guide the dates of coins already in the collection, which by 1908 was growing at a fast rate, to avoid duplication. Since the rare 1838-O half dollar was checked off, we can be sure that the records in Emery May's copy of this reference reflect purchases made at this time, since her father bought the 1838-O half in the Wilson Sale, held in early October, 1908.

The original inventory records from this early period have not been preserved. Much of the information they must have contained was transferred into the Norwebs' inventory books and index card files, starting in the late 1930s. We may never know what her father's own records looked like. The actual contents of the collection, as it stood in 1913, can only be partially reconstructed from the information that was seen fit to preserve. We do have other sources of information about the collection at that time, however, ones that reflect Emery May's rather sophisticated participation in the hobby, for a teenager.

Beginning in 1908, Emery May also kept a looseleaf folder containing tissue paper sheets, on which she made rubbings of many of her father's coins. The folder was arranged chronologically, starting with colonial coins and going on through federal issues grouped by date. 1793 issues were filed before 1794 dated coins, for example. Colonial coins were arranged in the sequence made popular by Sylvester S. Crosby in his *The Early Coins of America*, published over 25 years earlier. Following federal issues were territorial gold coins. Albert Holden had a large collection of California fractional gold coins, but none was included in his daughter's folder, probably because they were too small to take rubbings from. No commemorative silver coins were included, either, although we know that Albert owned an 1893 Isabella Quarter, 1892 and 1893 Columbian half dollars, and a 1900 Lafayette dollar. No other silver commemoratives were struck before he died in 1913. The 1915-S Panama Pacific half dollar would have been the next silver commemorative Albert would have been able to buy, had he lived.

Albert also owned specimens of the 1904 and 1905 Lewis and Clark commemorative gold dollar, and both varieties of the earlier 1903 Louisiana Purchase Exposition commemorative gold

View of the Norweb family residence in Bratenahl, Ohio. The oak tree on the left was popularly called the "council oak" as legend had it that local Indian tribes once held their councils beneath its spreading boughs.

dollar. None was included in Emery May's book of rubbings. In fact, no gold coins of any kind were included in the folder, possibly because it was felt that gold metal was too soft and gold coins might be marked by taking rubbings from them.

Today, we might feel hesitant about letting anyone cover our coins with tissue paper and rub a soft pencil over the paper to make rubbings of the coins. In the days before coin photography was as easily done as it is today, taking a rubbing was an accepted way of making a "picture" of a coin, which could be transported safely and even sent through the mail. Carefully done, by someone with experience, making a rubbing does not affect the surface features of a coin in the slightest since the pencil point never actually touches the coin and the pressure needed to make a good "picture" of the coin is slight. Another common way of making a representation of a coin was to press it into soft, sculptor's clay. The impression left behind in the clay was then filled with fine plaster, allowed to harden, and the resulting cast showed one side of the subject coin. Taking impressions from both faces of a coin gave two, uniface casts, that could be laid side by side to show both surfaces of the original coin. This practice is still common in institutional collections and numismatic museums, such as the British Museum in London and the American Numismatic Society in New York City.

Emery May's book of rubbings was started in 1908, and the impressions she took of her father's coins show that she had a good and steady hand. The rubbings are clear and well defined, without smudges, and do not go beyond the edges of the specimens from which they were made. Experience shows they did no harm whatsoever to the coins. Some rubbings of large cents, the 1794s in particular, are detailed enough to make Sheldon attributions from them! A few examples may be seen in photographs in this chapter.

Using Crosby's reference as a guide as she did, the first coins included in her folder are a pair of New England shillings struck circa 1652. Emery May identified them as "Crosby fig.2, page 45" and "Crosby fig.3, page 45", which were very good as attributions by a 13 year old girl. Comparing her rubbings with Sidney Noe's later (1943) reference work on the series, we can easily attribute the specimen she identified as Crosby figure 2 as Noe's dies II-A, with the large die break over the upper left crossbar of the X in the denomination XII. The other NE shilling can only be a specimen from Noe's dies III-C, based upon the shape of the descender of the N in NE on the obverse and the attenuated top of the second Roman numeral in the denomination on the reverse. Crosby's line drawings on page 45 of his reference are not well detailed. The obverse drawings are close enough to match up with actual coins, but the reverse drawings are less distinct. In particular, neither of Crosby's reverse drawings show the large break characteristic of reverse A. Yet, Emery May correctly associated the first NE shilling with Crosby's figure 2, and the second with Crosby's figure 3, even though she could not have been completely sure about the attributions at the time.

Massachusetts Willow Tree coins follow next in sequence in Emery May's rubbings book, as they did in Crosby's reference. The first specimen shown in her book is unattributed, excusably so. Willow Tree coins were hand struck and this specimen was double struck, very severely so on the reverse. Additionally, it is from a late state of the reverse die, with most of the denomination and all the date obscured. However, her rubbing was of excellent quality and we can match the coin up exactly: it is Noe-12, from dies 3-C, the Lambert Sale (1910) specimen we know Albert Holden purchased and which was later plated in Noe's book.

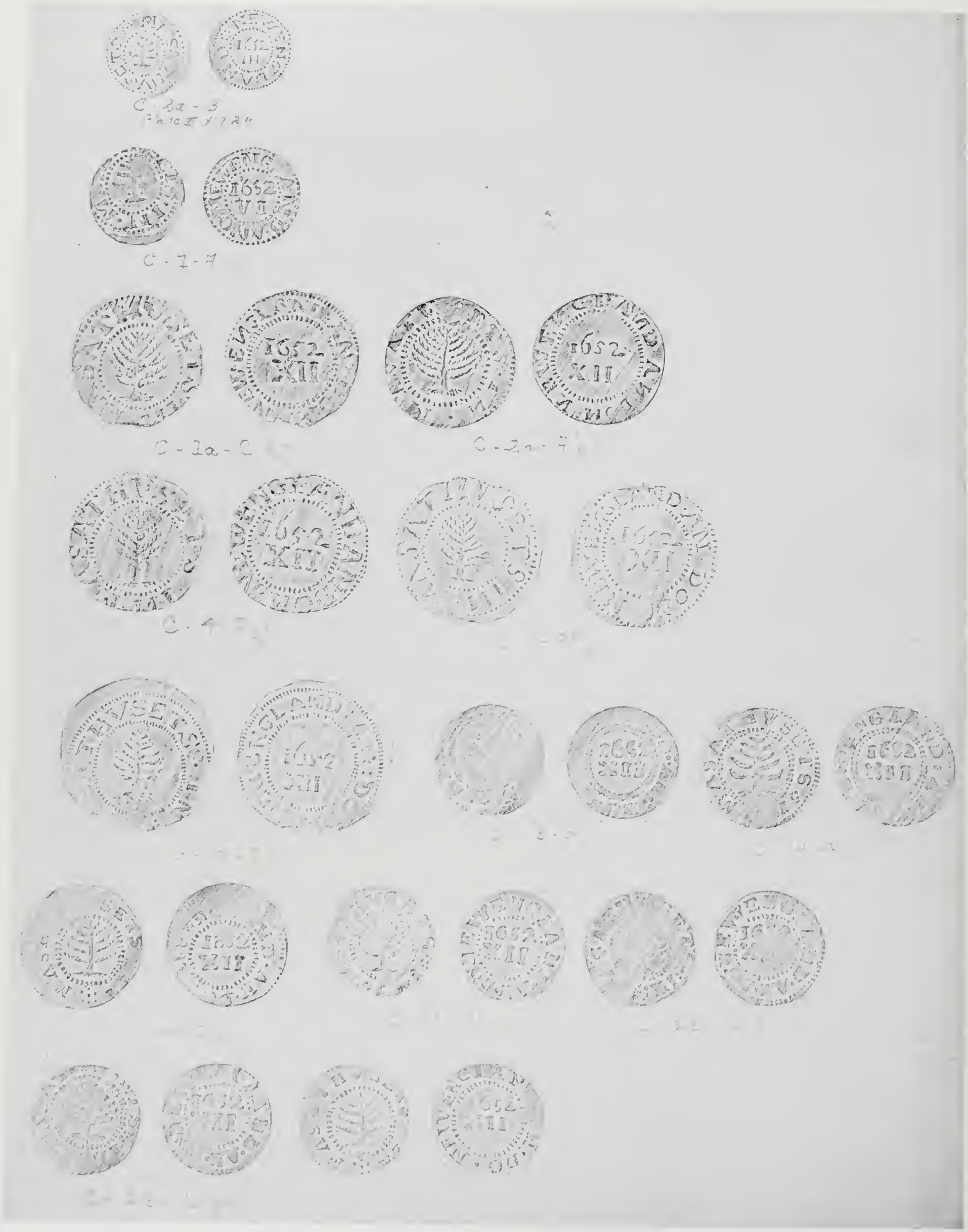
Following Massachusetts Willow Tree coins are Oak and Pine Tree specimens, each identified by Crosby's die numbers. Rosa Americana issues include an example of the rare ROSA SINE SPINA penny; and among Voce Populi coins is a scarce Large Letters variety of the farthing. Five of the seven major "types" of the Higley copper coinage are also included. The unique silver Maryland-Lord Baltimore shilling, variety without colon after MARIAE on the obverse, is also represented; decades later this coin was donated to the American Numismatic Society by Ambassador and Mrs. Norweb. Thirteen year old Emery May noted that the piece was "believed to be unique in silver," information she obtained from Henry Chapman, who sold it to her father in June, 1911.

The Lambert Sale Willow Tree shilling and the unique Lord Baltimore shilling were purchased in 1910 and 1911, respectively. This establishes that Emery May's rubbings book, while begun in 1908 as she wrote on the first page, was continued and added to over the ensuing three years, the height of her father's collecting activity, which we have described previously.

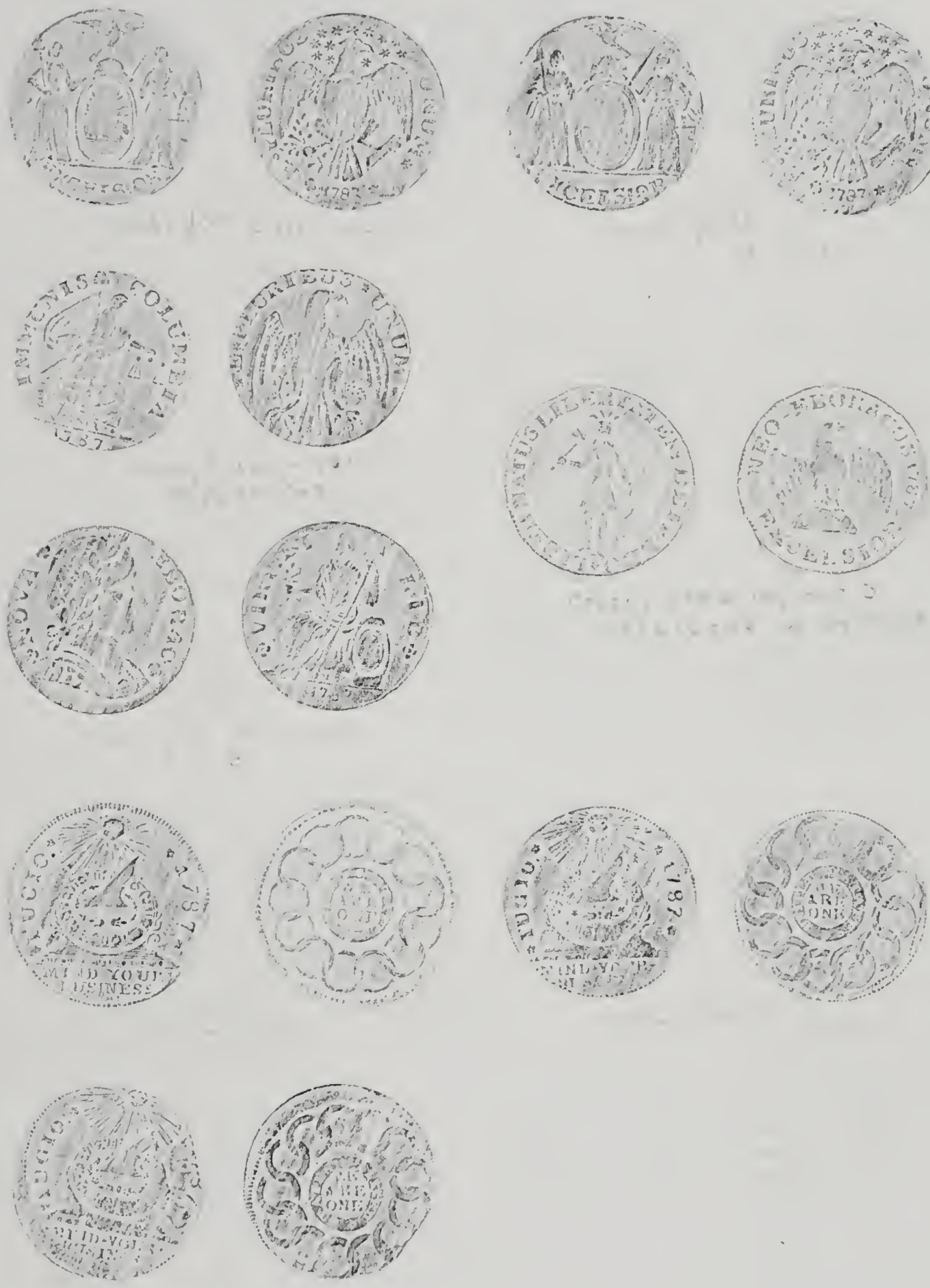
Federal issues, starting with the cents and half cents of 1793, are allotted one page per year. At the top of each page, Emery May reproduced the larger denominations, the dollar and half dollar, if minted for a particular year (for example, no silver coins were struck in 1793, so the page for this year includes copper coins only); subsidiary silver and nickel (where appropriate) coins followed, the bottom part of each page being given over to the copper or copper-nickel issues. Separate pages were devoted to Proof sets of particular years; Albert Holden owned Proof sets of 1857-1860 among other dates, and each of these, for example, is given its own page.

There is a separate page for rare half cents, particularly the Proof issues, which are divided in columnar fashion to indicate whether they were originals or "restrikes". Pattern issues were also included on separate pages. Albert Holden collected pattern coins as year sets. For example, he owned a six-piece set of the 1873 Trade dollar patterns and a group of Paquet's 1859 half dollar patterns. These were listed as patterns of 1859, patterns of 1873, and this arrangement was continued for all the other pattern coins in his collection. The 1861 Confederate restrike half dollar he owned was included on the page devoted to patterns of 1861. The 1870 pattern page included specimens of Longacre's and Barber's designs of that year. Careful notes were taken of the edge types and metals of each pattern, as well. At the time there was no published reference book on the series; that awaited the 1912-1913 effort of Edgar H. Adams and William H. Woodin.

Half cents and large cents were favorites of her father's. The rubbings of these denominations include notes of the popular nicknames given to some of them, as the 1797 large cent called the "Dropped C" variety (corresponding to Sheldon-134), or the 1804 half cent still known as the Spiked Chin variety. Particular care was taken with the early coppers, and where possible Emery May drew lines between obverse and reverse die rubbings, apparently to suggest die linkages. Occasionally mistakes were made, as in the "marriage" she proposed between 1801 large cent obverse 7 with reverse C, which today is not recognized by large cent specialists! Still, some of her die linkages were correct, not



Reproduction of a page from Emery May Holden's book of coin rubbings, begun in 1908. This page, devoted to Massachusetts silver coins, shows many pieces still preserved in the Norweb Collection. Young Emery May carefully noted the Crosby die references beneath each piece. The rubbings are of unusually high quality.

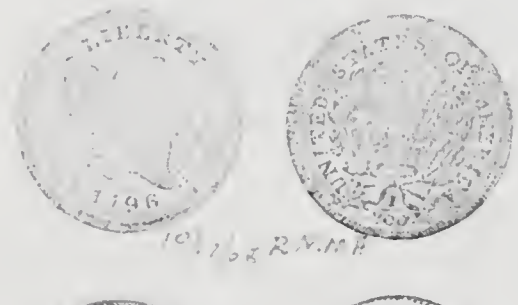


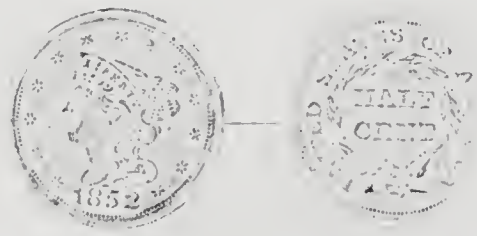
A page of colonial era coins from Emery May Holden's 1908 book of rubbings. Included are both varieties of the 1787 EXCELSIOR copper; the IMMUNE COLUMBIA Large Eagle reverse; the LIBERNATUS LIBERTATEM Indian and Eagle on globe copper; a 1787 NOVA EBORAC copper, reverse figure seated left; and three 1787 Fugio cents.

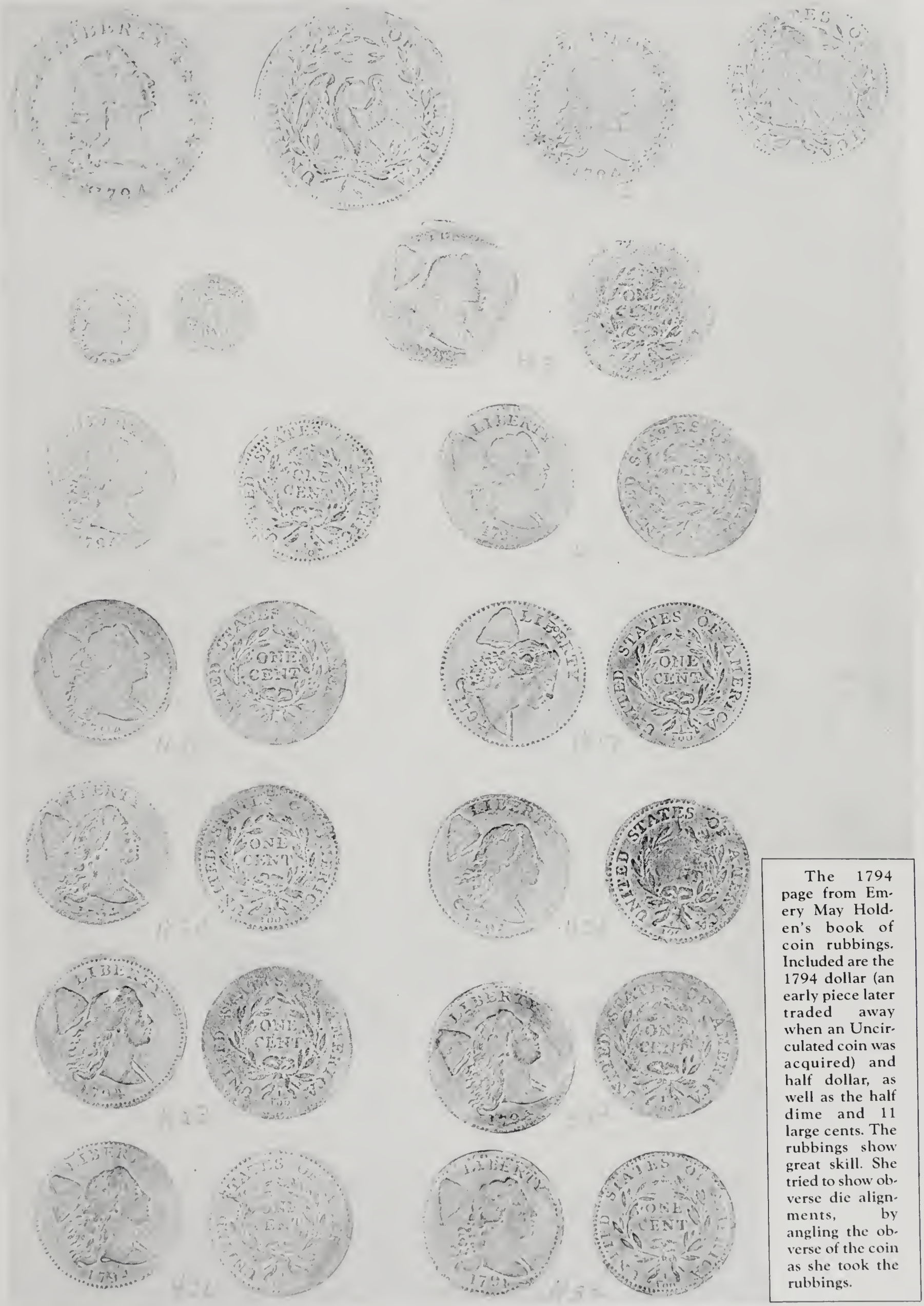
Page of Vermont coppers from Emery May Holden's book of coin rubbings. Included are the popular "landscape" types, the Baby Head, and others.

This page from Emery May Holden's 1908 book of coin rubbings shows tokens and coppers related to the American colonial era, including a pewter 1776 Continental currency coin, the variety with one R in CURENCY. The reverse of this particular piece has been rotated to show its original alignment in the dies, an indication of Emery May Holden's numismatic sophistication at an early age.

This is one of the most interesting pages in Emery May Holden's 1908 book of coin rubbings. These are, as she has written at the top, the rare half-cents then in her father's collection. As some of the drawings are dated 1910, we know that she maintained her book of rubbings from 1908 through at least that date. Included are both original and restrike Proofs, each carefully distinguished on the page, the dates of purchase are indicated, along with prices paid. (She used the code JORDAN MILE, adapted from "Jordan Mine" to eliminate the recurring second N).







The 1794 page from Emery May Holden's book of coin rubbings. Included are the 1794 dollar (an early piece later traded away when an Uncirculated coin was acquired) and half dollar, as well as the half dime and 11 large cents. The rubbings show great skill. She tried to show obverse die alignments, by angling the obverse of the coin as she took the rubbings.

The 1795 coin page from Emery May Holden's 1908 book of rubbings. On this page we see several varieties of the 1795 large cent, including the curious Jefferson Head issue, two varieties of the 1795 half cent, and three 1795 half dimes.

a bad feat for a 13 year old girl. Even more surprising is the fact that she noted die alignments, by aligning the coin rubbing to show the original placement of the obverse and reverse dies in the coin press. Not many collectors today bother to make these observations, nor even collectors of early American copper coins who are known for their concern for technical details like these. For a young girl in 1908, this concern for the finer numismatic details is quite surprising.

The Mougey Collection Sale (1910)

The second source of information we can use to get a feeling for Emery May's involvement with her father's coin collection in this early period consists of the few remaining auction catalogues of sales Albert Holden bid in before his death in 1913. As we have mentioned elsewhere, very few were preserved after his death; Albert's original library of catalogues must have been quite extensive, given his known participation in many important sales, whose catalogues are not to be found in the Norweb library today.

One surviving catalogue in particular, of the sale of the Peter Mougey Collection in September 1910, is very instructive. Catalogued by Thomas Elder, one of Albert Holden's favorite dealers; and auctioned by Daniel Kennedy, who had held the American Numismatic Association convention sale earlier that year; the Mougey Sale was a major numismatic event of the period.

Peter Mougey's collection included outstanding half cents and large cents, which Elder described as being the finest ever assembled. It contained one of the finest collections of half dimes known, featuring an 1802; gold coins from quarter eagles through eagles; the finest collection of half dollars ever offered for sale up to that time; and gold and silver proof sets from 1842 to 1906. Individual rarities were too numerous to mention here. Suffice it to say, however, that the Mougey Sale brought Albert Holden out as a major buyer, and the reconstructed inventory of his collection shows he was successful with some of his bids.

Thomas Elder produced two versions of the Mougey Sale catalogue. One contained plates, and was meant to be a reference catalogue, to be kept in a collector's library for future study. The other version contained no plates, only the descriptions of the individual lots being sold. This was meant as a working copy, to be marked and annotated by bidders with any notes they wanted to include, like maximum bid amounts, notes about rarity or pedigree, and so forth. Albert Holden's plated copy of the Mougey sale was lost after his death, but his working copy survives and is filled with notes in his own handwriting. It also contains numerous comments in Emery May's hand.

Judging by the comments, it appears that Albert and his daughter Emery May collaborated on annotating auction catalogues. Albert seems to have given Emery May sale catalogues when they arrived in the mail at his house in Bratenahl, Ohio. Her job was to go through the lot descriptions in the catalogues first, before her father saw them. She would compare the coins being offered with the inventory of her father's collection and note down which pieces were still lacking in their collection. Then she would compare the conditions of coins being offered with the conditions of the ones their collection did contain, to see if there was a chance to upgrade by buying higher grade examples from the auction.

Emery May would also write marginal comments about the lots in the sale. Sometimes these included notes about the rarity of a particular date; other times, they included remarks about mistakes in catalogue descriptions. Usually, her comments concerned the grades of coins in her father's collection compared to the grades of specimens offered in the auction.

Grading and Pricing

When Albert began collecting coins, in 1907, collectors used the grading system popular at the time, which was purely adjectival. Coins were graded as "Uncirculated", "About Uncirculated", "Very Fine", and so forth. Distinctions in grades, refinements we might call them, were made by qualifying the adjectival grade with particular comments in the general description of the coin. So, a typical description might read as follows: "1798 dollar. Thirteen stars and Heraldic eagle. Uneven date with pointed 9 and high 8. Uncirculated, sharp, a gem. Plate." The numerical grading standards which are familiar to all collectors of United States coins today were not created until decades later. Our modern MS-65 and MS-67 grades, equivalent to the above adjectival grade with its qualifiers "sharp, gem", would have made no sense to Albert Holden or his daughter Emery May. Thomas Elder, who actually wrote the description of the 1798 dollar we included above, would not have immediately understood the "precision" our modern, numerical grading system suggests.

There were some scattered, largely barren, attempts at creating a shorthand, numerical grading system for U.S. coins before 1908. Earlier in this book, in the chapter detailing Albert Holden's collecting activities, we alluded to Strobridge's numerical system. Albert seems to have created something very much like Strobridge's system, refining it by adding additional numerical grades. It must have appealed to his scientific nature, as the numbers themselves implied a certain uniformity and general application across different specimens of the same date. For example, a 1798 dollar of the variety described above graded 2, for Uncirculated, would have to be more desirable than another specimen of the same variety graded 3, for About Uncirculated. As we find today, the "scientific precision" implicit in numerical grading does offer the collector some assurance that a coin with a higher number grade is in better condition than one with a lower number grade.

By 1910, when the Peter Mougey Collection was sold, Albert Holden had dropped grading coins adjectivally and was using his numerical system exclusively. Emery May learned the system, and used it in her own comments in the Mougey sale catalogue. We have mentioned the structure of his system earlier, but it is worth repeating here, since he was one of the few collectors of the time who used numerical grades. In his system, the lower the number the better was the grade of a coin, which is directly opposite the modern style. In their grading system, Albert and his daughter Emery May considered Proof to be a grade, and not a method of manufacture, and Proof condition was thought to be the best, so it was given the lowest number, 1. Today, we recognize that the term Proof refers to a coin specially struck from polished dies on a polished planchet, and not a grade in itself (a Proof coin can be Proof-67, Proof-63, Proof-60,

and if impaired by handling even Proof-50). The numerical system they used to grade their coins looked like this:

Number Grade	Adjectival Grade	Number Grade	Adjectival Grade
1	Proof	5	Very Fine
2	Uncirculated	6	Fine
3	About Unc.	7	Good
4	Extremely Fine	8	Poor

When Emery May had finished annotating an auction catalogue, and had included any comments she had about rarity, cataloguing mistakes she had found, and so on, she gave it to her father. Albert then entered his maximum bids in the left margin, next to lots he and Emery May wanted to acquire. After this, the next step was to learn more about the lots to be sold, to check the cataloguer's grading, and to see the coins they were interested in, what we would call today determining the "eye appeal" of the coins.

From the few catalogues that have survived we cannot tell for sure if Albert and Emery May ever personally inspected lots prior to an auction. We know that Albert rarely, if ever, attended auction sales in person—he was just too busy with his business affairs, and Emery May was too young to do so for him, unescorted. Possibly their agent bidders, the professionals who bid on their behalf in auctions, made the visual inspections for them. Possibly, they simply accepted the cataloguer's grading of coins they wanted to buy, if they trusted his opinion. Their situation is identical to the options presented to bidders in today's coin auction sales.

In whichever way they checked the grading in auction sales, there were lots they felt were not graded accurately, and in these cases Emery May later noted the accurate grade of the coin in the right hand margin, next to the lot description. Albert Holden would then review his maximum bids on lots that they felt had not been graded accurately, making whatever revisions to his bids he felt were necessary. His bids would then be given to his agent, or agents, for he might have commissioned several agents to bid for him in the same sale, a bidding tactic later used to advantage by his daughter. Then he and Emery May would wait for the sale results. When these arrived, whether by telephone from his agent(s) telling him which lots he was successful in buying, or in the form of an invoice from the auction company for the lots he had bought, Emery May would enter his initials in the left margin of the catalogue, next to the lots her father had purchased.

The whole process of reading, criticizing, and annotating auction sale catalogues was carried out in a very orderly fashion, with clear cut divisions of responsibility between father and daughter. Careful records were kept of past purchases, listing vendor, date of sale, grade of the coin, and what the coin cost them. Their cost price was usually written in a letter code. They had their own, secret cost code: a two word phrase known only to themselves containing exactly 10 letters. Each letter corresponded to a number from 1 to 10. Any number could be encoded into its corresponding letter, and so a combination of numbers, as a dollar amount, for example, could be encoded into what would look like a meaningless jumble of letters.

To illustrate, suppose we take the letters of Albert Fairchild Holden's name. There are more than ten letters here, and since we can only use ten if the code is to work, we can shorten his name to ALBERT OWNS. If we assign the numbers 1 through ten to these ten letters, then A = 1, L = 2, B = 3, and so on down to S = 10. Now, let us assume we want to pay $125.65 for a particular coin in an auction, but do not want anyone sitting near us to know how much we are willing to pay for the piece. Encoding $125.65 with our letter assignment code, that figure becomes ALR.OR, and the meaningless sequence of letters effectively hides the actual figure we have in mind. Of course, the decimal point after the third letter does suggest that our bid is no higher than $999.99, but anyone seeing our code cannot know for certain what the real figure is, because he will not know that our code assigns a number to every letter in it.

Albert's cost code was a variation of a phrase well known to himself and would have made immediate sense to his daughter. His letter code used the words JORDAN MILE. The first word was the name of his father Liberty's first silver mine, the Old Jordan—the start of the family fortune. The second was simply the word "mine," with the third letter changed from "n" to "l," a security measure. The subtle variation he included in it ensured that anyone stumbling on the phrase by accident still could not be sure of its meaning. In later life Emery May adopted it for her own use, just as she adopted her father's grading system for her own acquisitions.

The Young Numismatist

A few examples from Albert Holden's working copy of the Peter Mougey Sale catalogue will illustrate the general remarks we have made.

Lot 5 in that sale was a 1793 large cent, Crosby 9-G (Sheldon-8), the variety with the stem of the sprig parallel with the date numerals below it. Thomas Elder catalogued it as perfectly centered and sharp Uncirculated, calling it the finest known. Emery May's notes in the right hand margin list prior auction appearances of the variety with prices realized as: "Stickney coin sold for 50./Wilson 50. 2 [ie., she and her father graded the Wilson coin Uncirculated]/Zabriskie 57.50 2 [again, they graded Zabriskie' s as Uncirculated.]" Albert's initials are in the left margin, the convention they used to signify that he was the successful bidder on this lot. However, none of the 1793 large cents in the present Norweb Collection traces its pedigree back to the Mougey Sale, and as Albert Holden did not write down his maximum bid level in the left margin, it cannot be known for certain if he was the purchaser of the lot in question. Emery May's price research on prior auction appearances is a true characteristic of a sophisticated collector. She must have spent considerable time looking through her father's past auction catalogues for just that variety of the 1793, and the diligence the search required is another mark of her early maturity as a collector of coins.

Lots 220-222 were three 1841 Proof large cents; the first was fully red, the second was partially red, while the third was a nice, steel blue color. Emery May's notes record that their collection contained an 1841 in AU condition (i.e., numerical grade 3), which had cost $1.00. She recorded that a Proof specimen sold for $12.50 in the Zabriskie Sale of 1909 (catalogued by Henry Chapman). Albert's notes in the left margin bracket all three

Early Half Eagles

OF ALL SERIES in American coinage, none contains more rarities than that of the Capped Head to Left half eagles minted from 1813 through 1834. Although production quantities for most years amounted to tens of thousands of pieces, nearly all are extreme rarities today. Even rarer are Proof impressions produced for presentation to dignitaries, government officials, and others. Two such Proofs, 1820 (variety with Curved-base 2 on obverse, Large Letters on reverse) and 1821 are shown here.

The rarity of half eagles of the period is explained by the fact that the value of gold bullion rose to the point at which each piece contained metal worth more than its face value. The vast majority of pieces were exported or melted. The most extreme case is that of 1823, a coin of which 14,485 were reported to have been minted, but of which just three specimens are known to exist today.

lots with the notation "7 1/2 for one", meaning he would pay $7.50, but only for one of the lots.

Peter Mougey's collection of half dollars was among the finest assembled at the time, and Albert Holden was interested in acquiring several varieties for his collection. Emery May did the basic numismatic and pricing research, as usual. Lot 652 of the Mougey Sale was an example of the rare 1878-S, of which only 12,000 were originally minted. Emery May correctly noted next to the lot that the 1878-S was the rarest San Francisco Mint half dollar (although 5,000 were coined in 1873 without arrows on the obverse, none is known to survive).

Lot 664 was an 1874-CC half dollar, which Elder catalogued as being rare. It was graded as Uncirculated. Emery May crossed out Elder's word rare, substituting her own "scarse"(sic; her spelling was rather poor and didn't get much better until she was in her 30s). While the mintage figures for the 1874 Carson City half dollar would tend to support her calling the issue scarce rather than rare (59,000 struck), she neglected to take into account the grade of the coin. A strictly Uncirculated 1874-CC half dollar is a rare coin: the 1988 edition of the *Guidebook of United States Coins* values an EF-40 1874-CC half at $900, but suggests a value of $4,000 for an MS-60 specimen. Only years of numismatic experience can teach this sort of lesson about mintages and rarity. Emery May's inexperience, and her father's also, led them to an incorrect conclusion in this case.

Lots 776 and 777 of the Mougey Sale were a pair of Carson City quarter dollars, dated 1870 and 1872, respectively. Emery May's notes next to the 1870-CC read "ex. rare". In this case, she was absolutely correct. Only 8,340 pieces were struck, and the current *Guidebook* values the date at $1,000 in Good-4, up to $4,750 in EF-40; it is unpriced above that grade, meaning that it is extremely rare above EF-45 condition. Thomas Elder's catalogue description indicated the grade of Mougey's piece as Extremely Fine, so Emery May's comment was correct. Interestingly, Elder did not mention anything about the date being rare, so here Emery May improved upon his description. Her notes next to lot 777, the 1872-CC quarter, say that it is extremely rare, too. Elder catalogued it as rare, also. Its catalogue grade was Very Good. A quick look into the current *Guidebook* shows the date valued there at $225 in VG-8, but $1,800 in EF-40.

Lot 913 of the Mougey sale was an 1838-O half dime graded as Uncirculated. Elder catalogued it as "...a little tarnished.", which means that today we would have called it nicely toned! Standards of beauty in coins change over the years. Emery May's comment next to this lot reads: "See if coin is small O, ours is large O." Later authors, such as Daniel Valentine and Don Taxay, do not list different size mintmarks for the 1838-O half dime, so her question was a sophisticated one.

Lot 923 was an 1853-O half dime, together with an 1854-O. Elder catalogued the first as Uncirculated, the second as Very Good and rare. Against the 1853-O Emery May's note asked asked the logical question: "arrows or no arrows?" As the variety with no arrows at date is valued much higher than the with arrows variety in the current *Guidebook*, the question she asked was a good one. Elder should have made the distinction in his cataloguing of the lot.

To take just one more example from the Mougey Sale of 1910, to illustrate Emery May's early sophistication, consider the quarter eagle in lot 1144. Thomas Elder's description reads as follows: "1796. Bust of Liberty to right, with cap. Heraldic eagle. Planchet marks across the obverse rim, otherwise a brilliant Uncirculated specimen with Proof surface. Very rare. Plate." This is a very workmanlike description of the coin, and in all respects save one it could stand in one of today's auction catalogues. The only flaw in Elder's description was noticed immediately, as Emery May's note reads: "Stars or no stars?". Anyone with a plated copy of the Mougey Sale catalogue could look at the plate and see for himself whether the variety was the more popular, and so more expensive one, without stars on the obverse. Emery May was working with the unplated version of the catalogue, however, as were many other collectors. Elder's description should have made it clear to all readers what variety the lot contained. It was not a difficult oversight to notice, but it does show us that 13 year old Emery May read her catalogues very carefully and took her role as her father's collaborator with his coin collection very seriously.

The Middle Years (1914-1934)

The collaboration between father and daughter drew to a close towards the end of 1912. Albert Holden had returned from a business trip to Alaska in September of that year, knowing he was dying of cancer. His last coin purchases were made shortly afterward. Between December 1912 and his death in May 1913, no new coins appear to have been permanently added to the collection. Albert did receive some coins, and at least one entire collection of coins, through the mail on an approval basis. However, his health was not good enough to allow him the luxury of inspecting these shipments. Some of these approval shipments from different dealers were returned before his death, but we know of at least one which was not, a collection of over 150 Connecticut coppers, some of which were originally from Dr. Thomas Hall's personal collection.

Emery May did not see all the coins sent to her father on approval during these final months. The collection of Connecticut coppers, for example, was found in Albert's house after his death; his executors purchased the collection, sight unseen, paying the seller his asking price (not recorded). Without even opening the parcel that contained the coins, the executors stored it away with the rest of Albert's collection in a Cleveland bank vault. Much later, around 1935, Emery May Norweb rediscovered the collection and set to work cataloguing it, with the help of her children! This was the first time she had seen these particular coins. We only know the story in this kind of detail because Mrs. Norweb recorded it in her own inventory ledgers, which she started after 1937.

Emery May was placed in the guardianship of her aunt and uncle after her father's death, and she lived with them in their house in Bratenahl, which was near her old home. Albert's coin collection was transferred to a bank vault for safekeeping, where it remained undisturbed for many years. From the records that survive from this period, it appears that Emery May did not work on the collection. As a minor child, she may not have had access to it. From late in May 1913 until sometime in 1933 the collection lay dormant, neither added to by new purchases nor consolidated by sales of duplicates, of which there were many even in 1913.

Emery May did not forget the collection, nor did she abandon the hobby, however. Her father's obituary was published

1829 Small Date Half Eagle

AMONG THE RARE HALF EAGLES of the 1820s, one of the most famous is the 1829 Small Date. This represents the first issue of the reduced-diameter size, in the Capped Head to Left series from 1829 through 1834. The example in the Norweb Collection is in the ultimate state of preservation, a glittering Gem Proof.

in *The Numismatist* in March 1914. Two months later, on the first anniversary of his death, Emery May applied to the American Numismatic Association for her own membership. Her application was dated May 15, 1914. On it, she listed her occupation as "housewife", which was stretching the truth a little since she did not marry Henry Norweb until 1917 and had not even met him in 1914! Since she was a minor in 1914, she may have felt that calling herself a housewife was a way of avoiding any problems about her age. When her application was approved, she received membership number 1762.

Her sponsors for membership were the Moore brothers, E. Vernon and Waldo C., both of Lewisburg, Ohio. Waldo C. Moore joined the ANA in 1904, receiving regular membership number 673. Later, in 1922, he was one of the original eight ANA members to take a life membership in the organization, receiving life membership number 7. In 1914, when Emery May applied for membership, he was Secretary of the ANA, so his sponsorship of her application was probably a *pro forma* affair. Waldo C. Moore died in January 1953. His brother, E. Vernon Moore, was a talented musician, serving as head of the music department in the Lewisburg public school system until shortly before his death in 1926, at the young age of 40. He was a member of the Ohio State Archaeological and Historical Society, and was associated with his brother as assistant treasurer of the People's Banking Company. His sponsorship of Emery May's application was probably at his brother Waldo's request, and so was likely a *pro forma* affair also, although, as the Moores and the Holdens lived in the same state, they may have known each other.

Between 1913, when her father died, and 1916, when she left for France, Emery May was a boarding student at the Westover School in Connecticut. Each year she returned to her guardian's home in Bratenahl, Ohio for her summer vacation, but the rest of the time she was away at school. Consequently, the time available to her for numismatic activity was very limited, and, as her father's collection was stored in a Cleveland bank, she had no ready access to it.

In July 1916 Emery May left the United States for work in France with the American Ambulance Corps. In October 1917 she married R. Henry Norweb. For almost the whole of the next two decades, from 1917 until late in 1934, the Norwebs concerned themselves with raising their family and cultivating R. Henry Norweb, Sr.'s diplomatic career. Judging from their inventory books, which record the dates they purchased coins of their own (i.e., coins whose purchase dates fall after May 1913, when Albert Holden, the original collector, died), there was no significant collecting activity until October 1934. The Norweb family was stationed far from home during most of this time, and returning from posts as far away as The Hague, or Santiago, Chile, was not something to be undertaken lightly during vacation time. Just traveling from an overseas station back to Cleveland consumed much of their allowed vacation time. Today, we take the speed of jet travel for granted; in the 1920s and 1930s intercontinental travel was by steamship. A voyage from Europe to New York could last as long as a week; traveling from Chile could take twice as long, or more, depending on weather.

Two factors led the Norwebs to take an active interest in collecting United States coins once again. Both occurred in 1933. In April of that year the United States officially abandoned the gold standard and ceased minting gold coins. This action had profound international economic impact and led to the hoarding of $10 and $20 gold pieces throughout the world. In the United States itself, established coin collectors were allowed to own only one specimen of each date in the eagle and double eagle series and only four specimens from the quarter eagle series (unlimited numbers of gold $1 and $3 pieces could be owned, however). As Counsellor to the Embassy in Santiago, Chile, R. Henry Norweb, Sr. would have been expected to understand the law's provisions as they applied to United States citizens, and its implications would not have been lost on him. R. Henry Norweb could have seen that regulation of the ownership of gold coins by collectors was imminent even before April 1933; it was implicit in Franklin D. Roosevelt's economic platform even before his inauguration on March 4, 1933.

The prohibition against owning gold except in the limited way allowed to recognized coin collectors explains the earliest coin purchases recorded in the Norweb inventory ledgers. These were purchases of two $20 gold pieces, an 1891-S graded by Mrs. Norweb as VG and an 1896 graded by her as Fine; and an 1889 $10 gold piece, which she graded VF. Each of these was bought by R. Henry Norweb, so besides being the first coins added to the Holden-Norweb Collection since 1912, they were also the first coins we know of which were bought by Ambassador Norweb.

The second factor influencing the Norwebs to renew their interest in coin collecting was Henry Norweb's reassignment to the embassy in Mexico City in November of 1933, where he was to hold the same position he had in Santiago earlier, that of Counsellor to the Embassy. This relocation had the most profound influence on the future of the Holden-Norweb Collection. The family was now geographically much closer to the United States than before (excepting only the short tour in Washington early in the 1920s). Vacation time could now be spent at their home in Bratenahl, Ohio without worrying about lengthy sea voyages.

The Norweb family was stationed in Mexico City from November 1933 until reassignment to Bolivia in April 1936, or almost two and a half years. The reassignment to Bolivia took them further away from home, but as it turned out, the Bolivian posting lasted only a year. Mrs. Norweb could not get acclimated to life in the capital, La Paz, whose altitude of 12,001 feet makes it the highest capital city in the world. In April 1937 the Norwebs were reassigned to the Dominican Republic, which put them closer to home.

The years they spent in Mexico City saw the beginnings of what would become the Norweb Collection, *per se*, for the additions the Norwebs made to Albert Holden's earlier collection enlarged it and made it really their own.

A New Start (1934-1937)

Slightly less than a year after the Norwebs took up their posting in Mexico City, Mrs. Norweb made the first of what would become later a torrent of numismatic coin acquisitions. True to her father's tradition, it was fitting that this first purchase was a colonial coin, and that it was bought from one of Albert Holden's most trusted dealers.

In October 1934 Mrs. Norweb acquired a 1652 Massachusetts Willow Tree sixpence from Thomas Elder. We do not know who contacted whom at first, but logic suggests that she contacted

1861-D "Confederate" Half Eagle

THE DAHLONEGA MINT in Georgia was seized on April 8, 1861, on behalf of the Confederate States of America, by troops responding to orders of the governor of Georgia. Before that date, 1,597 1861-D half eagles were minted. After the Confederate seizure, additional coins were struck, possibly increasing the mintage to 2,500 or so, although the quantity was never recorded. As both Union and Confederate versions of the 1861-D half eagle were struck from the same dies, there is no way of differentiating them. Thus, the piece illustrated here, as well as any other 1861-D, has the possibility of being a Confederate half eagle. Only a few dozen 1861-D half eagles are known; the Norweb Collection specimen is one of the finest.

1909 Indian Head Half Eagle

IN 1908 an innovative coinage design appeared on $2½ and $5 pieces, the work of Boston sculptor Bela Lyon Pratt. In contrast to standard United States issues, the quarter eagles and the half eagles minted from 1908 to 1929 have as the highest part of the coin the field, while the design elements are incuse or recessed. Shown above is a Satin Finish Proof 1909 half eagle.

At the time of the initial release of the design, collectors felt that the Pratt designs for the $2½ and $5 did not come up to the standard set by Saint-Gaudens' $10 and $20 pieces. In periodicals of the time, the style was widely criticized.

Coronet or Liberty Head Eagles

1839

1858

1862

1875

1863

1877

1883-O

EAGLES or $10 pieces of the Coronet or Liberty Head type were first minted in 1838. The basic obverse design, by Christian Gobrecht, was continued through the year 1907. In 1866 the motto IN GOD WE TRUST was added to the reverse.

Shown on this page are a number of scarce issues within the series. The 1839 is of the Large Letters style and features the head of Miss Liberty positioned at a different angle in relation to the date than the angle seen on later issues. The 1858 Philadelphia issue is very rare. Of the original mintage of 2,521 coins, only a few dozen exist. Only 35 Proofs were struck in 1862. The 1875 eagle is a prime rarity in the series, for the total mintage consists of just 100 business strikes plus 20 Proofs. The 1863 Proof was minted to the extent of only 30 pieces, while only 20 Proofs were made of the 1877. The final coin shown above, the 1883-O, is a rare New Orleans mintage. Total production was just 800 pieces.

Saint-Gaudens $10 Coinage

1907 Periods after Reverse Legends

1907 Without Periods

1908 Matte Proof

1920-S

1933

IN 1907 Augustus Saint-Gaudens, one of American's most famous sculptors, redesigned the $10 piece. The coin features the portrait of an Indian modeled from the facial features of Davida Clark, his mistress, to which an Indian feathered headdress was added. The first issues of 1907 had periods before and after the reverse inscriptions, as illustrated in the enlarged photograph. Subsequent 1907 issues, and the remaining coins of the rest of the series, omitted the periods. Saint-Gaudens $10 pieces were struck continously from 1907 through 1916, after which the coinage was limited to 1920-S, 1926, 1930-S, 1932, and 1933. The 1933 is a great rarity, and only a few dozen are known. Originally, 312,500 1933 $10 pieces were minted, but nearly all were melted under the Gold Order of 1933. This particular issue represents the latest-dated collectible American gold coin from the early series

Elder, as it is likely that he would not have known her address unless she had given it to him. From 1916 to 1934 she had lived in many different countries. It would have been interesting to learn how she first approached Tom Elder: did she have to introduce herself, or was her father's memory still alive even after so many years had gone by? Albert Holden had been one of Elder's best customers 20 years earlier, and Elder must have wondered what had happened to his collection after Albert's death in 1913. The correspondence between the two, like her father's correspondence with Elder, would have made interesting reading for a future generation of numismatic historians, had it been preserved.

The sixpence she purchased had a distinguished pedigree before Elder acquired it, as it had come from Philip, Prince of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, whose collection had been sold in 1928 by the German firm of Leo Hamburger. Elder sold it to Mrs. Norweb for $400. She graded it Very Good in 1937, but revised her grading of the coin upwards to Fine-15 in 1982, which reflected its condition using the numerical grades first popularized by Dr. William Sheldon.

Elder's pricing was fair for the time. Today, we recognize the 1652 Willow Tree sixpence as Rarity-6, meaning fewer than 25 specimens are thought to survive from the original unknown, but small, mintage. To put Mrs. Norweb's cost into contemporary terms, consider that the EF example in the Garrett Collection sold for $46,000 in 1980, the peak of the last cycle in the colonial coin market; or that the example from John L. Roper's collection, which was Fine, but cracked, sold for $9,900 three years later.

In the Norweb inventory books this acquisition was given number 23. The Norweb inventory ledgers were started sometime after 1937, and coins were recorded as they came to hand when the Norwebs began inventorying them. Coin number 1, for example, was bought before 1912 by Mrs. Norweb's father Albert, while coin number 2 was purchased in 1937 by Mrs. Norweb herself.

The 1652 Willow Tree sixpence was loaned to the National Numismatic Collection at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. in 1960. In December 1982 it was donated to the National Collection, where it may be seen as part of our nation's numismatic heritage.

No further acquisitions were recorded in the inventory ledgers for the next eight months, from October 1934 until June 1935. Then, on June 29, Mrs. Norweb bought a 1722 Wood's Hibernia halfpenny, second type with the harp on the right, from Milfred H. Bolender's sale of the A.M. Smith Collection. Graded as Good at the time, she paid $2.75 for the piece. M.H. Bolender later, in 1950, wrote the standard catalogue of Bust type silver dollars dated from 1795-1803. While this purchase was not particularly significant in itself, it is important for the history of the Norweb Collection as it represents the first recorded auction purchase made by Mrs. Norweb herself, as well as the first auction purchase adding to the collection since 1912.

The grade of Good applied to this halfpenny was taken from Bolender's catalogue description of it. In the inventory listings of their coins, the Norwebs noted the grades of their coins as they appeared on dealers' invoices or in auction catalogues. For the most part, the Norwebs did not record numerical grades in the ledgers, even for purchases made much later on, when numerical grading had become the norm in the coin industry. In their card files, which recapitulated much of the information contained in the inventory ledgers, the Norwebs used a different grading system.

Mrs. Norweb's father Albert Holden had devised a numerical grading system of his own, in which adjectival grades were assigned a corresponding number. In his system, which was described in detail earlier, the number 1 was assigned to Proof condition coins regardless of their actual grade; the number 2 was given to Uncirculated coins, 3 to About Uncirculated ones, and so forth. The Norwebs formulated a new version of Albert Holden's numerical system for their personal card files.

In the Norwebs' system, the number 1 was assigned to Proof coins, regardless of actual grade; the number 2 was given to Uncirculated coins; and the number 3 was assigned to all other coins grading from About Uncirculated down through Poor condition. In other words, the Norweb system kept Albert Holden's grading for top condition coins, but compressed all other grades into one large, catchall grade. Grading refinements which are today indicated by intermediate grades, as MS-64 and MS-63, or AU-55, were accounted for in the Norweb's system by adding descriptive comments. For example, a coin graded by them as 2, meaning an Uncirculated coin, could be further described in their card files as having very few bag marks, or a strong strike, and so on.

The Norweb grading system tells us two things about their "philosophy" of collecting coins. In the first place, they were very "strict" in grading their coins. To the Norwebs, a coin was either Uncirculated, Proof, or used. They recognized, of course, that some Uncirculated coins could look nicer than others, but their grading system was not designed to be as "scientifically" precise as the numerical system the coin hobby uses today. Their system was closer to the style still utilized by European collectors and professionals. The Norwebs considered grading to be an art rather than a science, and they would have had little sympathy for today's so-called "scientific grading", with its 11 different intermediate grades for an Uncirculated coin.

More importantly, however, their grading system shows us that they were condition collectors primarily. Whenever possible, they bought coins graded Proof or Uncirculated. Coins in lower grades were later sold or traded, to upgrade the collection. Of course, some dates and types could not be found in Proof condition, and others were unknown in Uncirculated condition. In such cases, the Norwebs acquired the best possible condition specimens obtainable.

The first two recorded acquisitions from Elder in 1934 and Bolender in 1935 were of individual coins. This method, buying single coins from a few sources, continued through the rest of 1935. In early October of that year, for example, the Norwebs purchased an Uncirculated 1840 half dollar, Medium Letters variety (called "large letters" in their inventory), for $12.50 from Scott Stamp & Coin Company.

Scott Stamp & Coin Co. was located at 1 West 47th Street in New York City, on the same floor of that building as J.C. Morgenthau & Company. Scott Stamp & Coin Co. was run by Walter S. Scott and Wayte Raymond. Walter S. Scott was the chief auctioneer for J.C. Morgenthau & Co., and Wayte Raymond was, at the time, Morgenthau's chief cataloguer. Scott Stamp & Coin Company was the publisher of Scott's *Standard Catalogue of Coins*, the forerunner of Wayte Raymond's own *Standard Catalogue* and the Whitman Publishing Company's later *Guidebook*.

Double Eagles

1871

1879-O

1899

1907 Saint-Gaudens,
Arabic Date

1909

RARE double eagles of the Saint-Gaudens style shown here include 1920-S, 1921, 1927-S, 1929, 1930-S, 1931, 1931-D, and 1932.

DOUBLE EAGLES were minted intermittently for circulation from 1850 to 1933. Shown on this page are a number of different dates and varieties, representing most of the types coined. The designs minted over the years include the following: type of 1850-1865, with denomination expressed as TWENTY D. and without motto; type of 1866-1876, with denomination as TWENTY D and with motto IN GOD WE TRUST; type of 1877-1907, with motto and with denomination expressed as TWENTY DOLLARS; MCMVII High Relief type of 1907; Saint-Gaudens type of 1907-1908 with Arabic numerals, no motto; and Saint-Gaudens type of 1908-1933, Arabic numerals, with motto IN GOD WE TRUST.

The double eagle, the largest denomination United States coin ever minted for general circulation, was popular in bank-to-bank transactions and overseas financial settlements.

1861 Paquet Reverse Double Eagle

IN 1861 the Paquet Reverse, designed by Anthony C. Paquet, an engraver at the Mint, was adopted for use on the double eagle. The style was distinctive and, as shown above, featured tall letters in the reverse inscriptions, in contrast to the squat letters regularly used (illustrated to the right). No sooner had the dies been put into service, when it was learned that the new dies suffered from rim breakage. The director of the Mint countermanded any further employment of the dies, and the old design was reinstituted. The number of pieces struck at Philadelphia was not recorded, but only two are known today, the Gem Uncirculated piece from the Norweb Collection shown here, and another circulated piece, which was found in Paris in the 1960s. 1861-S (San Francisco) Paquet $20 pieces, while rare, are known to the extent of several dozen pieces, for the Paquet reverse was used at the Mint to strike thousands of pieces before orders to discontinue using the reverse die were received from distant Philadelphia.

J.C. Morgenthau conducted coin auctions from 1932 until 1945. Their most famous sale was their last, the two part auction of Howard R. Newcomb's collection of large cents catalogued by Wayte Raymond.

Mrs. Norweb's purchase in October 1935 introduced her to Wayte Raymond, and a business relationship developed that would later play a significant part in the Norweb's collecting activities through the 1950s. She probably needed no introduction to Scott Stamp & Coin Company: her father Albert had been an important client of the firm before his death. She had used their *Standard Catalogue* as an inventory guide before 1913.

The Norwebs patronized Scott's neighbor, J.C. Morgenthau, as well. On October 11, 1935 the Norwebs purchased from J.C. Morgenthau an 1892-CC double eagle, graded by them as VF, for $60; an 1891-CC eagle, not graded in the inventory ledger, for $20; and an 1880-CC eagle, graded VF by the Norwebs, for $35. These three Carson City issues had been lots in Morgenthau's auction sale of the R. de Silva Santos, Jr, sale. While they were low mintage issues, the significant thing to notice about this transaction is that the Norwebs were now going about acquiring coins in a systematic manner. From this time forward, until the end of 1937, many of their purchases were of multiple coins from discrete series. Their goal was to fill gaps in whole series as speedily as possible, rather than one coin at a time.

To illustrate, we have selected two series, Charlotte and Dahlonega Mint half eagles purchased before the end of 1937. These are, relatively, small series, as they include coins struck only from 1838 until 1861. The data that follow are taken directly from the Norweb inventory ledgers, and it must be remembered that the ledgers do not include the same information for each and every coin purchase. This is especially true of coins bought by Mrs. Norweb's father Albert Holden; after 1937, when the ledgers were started, much information from Albert's days had been lost.

Charlotte Mint Half Eagles

Date	Vendor/Purchaser/Date	Grade	Price
1838	?/Albert Holden/?	VG	$ 6.00
1840	Elder/A.H./1910	VF	5.25
1841	Elder/A.H./1909	VF	6.00
1842	Elder/Norweb/1935	F	9.75
1844	Elder/Norweb/1935	VF	10.50
1848	Elder/Norweb/1935	VF	9.50
1852	?/A.H./?	F	—
1855	Hesslein/A.H./?	VF	5.85
1856	Morgenthau/Norweb/1935	VF	9.75
1857	Elder/A.H./?	F	6.00
1858	Morgenthau/Norweb/1936	VF	10.25
1860	Sears/A.H./?	VF	7.50
1861	Elder/A.H./?	VG	8.50

Dahlonega Mint Half Eagles

Date	Vendor/Purchaser/Date	Grade	Price
1839	Sears/A.H./?	F	$ 6.50
1840	Morgenthau/Norweb/1936	VF	12.75
1841	Scott S.&C./A.H./?	F	5.60
1842 SD	?/A.H./?	F	5.70
1842 LD	Elder/A.H./1909	F	6.00
1843	?/A.H./?	VG	—
1844	?/A.H./?	F	5.25
1845	?/A.H./?	VG	5.50
1846	?/A.H./?	VG	5.50
1847	Green/A.H./?	G	5.75
1848	Scott S.& C./A.H./?	VG	5.53
1849	Elder/A.H./1910	VF	5.25
1850	?/A.H./?	G	—
1852	Elder/Norweb/1935	F	9.25
1854	Elder/Norweb/1935	VF	9.50
1855	Sears/A.H./?	VF	10.00
1857	Elder/A.H./1910	VG	5.25
1860	Morgenthau/Norweb/1935	F	11.50

The reader will notice immediately that neither series as we have listed them above is complete. Only those dates present in the collection before 1937 were included, to illustrate Ambassador and Mrs. Norweb's activity in these two series when they first began collecting in a serious way. Even so it should be obvious that their goal was to complete each of these two series quickly, building on what Mrs. Norweb's father had left them. Albert Holden had done most of the work in filling the dates already, and perhaps that was why they chose these two in particular to work on during 1935-1937. Still missing after 1937 were the three rarities in these series, the 1842-C Small Date and the 1861-C and 1861-D issues. These would be purchased much later on.

Their inventory books record many other purchases made during the time the Norwebs were stationed in Mexico City, Bolivia, and the Dominican Republic, from 1935 through 1937. Besides Bolender, Elder, and J.C. Morgenthau & Co., the Norwebs purchased some coins from Charles H. Fisher, who had a coin business in their home town of Cleveland and conducted auction sales in the 1930s. Acquisitions from Fisher were limited to quarters, halves, and dollars of the 1920s and early 1930s. Their most important source for United States coins at this period was the flamboyant B. Max Mehl of Fort Worth, Texas.

B. Max Mehl

In September 1935 the Norwebs purchased a circulated 1885-S silver dollar from J.C. Morgenthau & Co. for $2.87. The following month, they bought an 1885-CC silver dollar from the same company, paying $3.00 for the coin. Mr. and Mrs. Norweb seem to have had some questions about the true worth of these two coins, thinking they may have paid too much for them. They decided to write to a coin dealer, describing the coins and asking his opinion of the prices they had paid for them. The dealer they chose to correspond with was B. Max Mehl. Accordingly, toward the end of 1935 Mr. Norweb wrote to Mehl, asking his advice in the matter. B. Max Mehl wrote back almost immediately, as the official embassy letterhead Norweb wrote on had caught his businessman's eye. Mehl replied by saying that the questions raised in Mr. Norweb's letter could not be answered in the absence of the coins themselves, a classic equivocation! He went on to say, however, that while he could not help, there was at the time, living in Mexico City, a certain Mrs. Norweb who was an authority on United States coins. Mehl recommended to Mr. Norweb that he contact Mrs. Norweb, and ask her help with the grading and pricing problem!

Despite this misunderstanding, which was probably due to a secretary's handling the situation, or the press of other business matters, the Norwebs and B. Max Mehl went on to forge a close business relationship, later a personal friendship, that would last until Mehl's death in 1957.

1883 Double Eagle

LIBERTY HEAD DOUBLE EAGLES were minted for circulation from 1850 to 1907. Within this date span, tens of millions of pieces were produced. In 1883 at the Philadelphia Mint no business strikes were made. The mintage that year was limited to just 92 Proofs struck for collectors. It is believed that most of the Proofs were never released and were subsequently melted. Today, very few Proofs survive, and of these, the Norweb Collection example is one of the finest.

On March 2, 1936 the Norwebs bought their first coin from B. Max Mehl, a 1935-S San Diego commemorative half dollar for $1.50. This was the first commemorative coin added to the collection since Albert Holden bought a pair of 1892 and 1893 Columbian Exposition pieces before 1912. By the end of 1936 the Norweb Collection contained one example of each commemorative half dollar minted up until then. Most were bought from Mehl, although some were purchased from Bolender and from Stack's, the New York City coin dealers.

Business dealings with B. Max Mehl proceeded smoothly and amicably, and a feeling of trust grew up between the Norwebs and Mehl, who was fast becoming their favorite source for U.S. coins. Mehl had obtained on consignment the famous Waldo C. Newcomer Collection in the early 1930s directly from its owner, later agreeing to buy it in installments from Newcomer, finally paying close to a quarter of a million dollars for the whole. Mehl also had access to coins from the Virgil M. Brand estate, probably through Virgil's brother Horace L.P. Brand, who was distributing coins through B.G.Johnson, among others at the time. Consequently, Mehl had some outstanding coins to offer the Norwebs. Interestingly, although Mehl was actively promoting certain rarities to John Work Garrett at the same time the Norwebs began buying from him, there seems to have been no competition between Garrett and the Norwebs for the same coins. Presumably, Mehl was too good a businessman to force his two best clients to compete for the same property, unless it was through a mail bid sale, of which he conducted over 100 before his death in 1957.

On January 2, 1937 the Norwebs bought six important coins from Mehl. As far as we can tell from their inventory records, these were the first non-commemorative issues they purchased from the Fort Worth dealer, and these included four half cents and two half dollars. The Norweb inventory ledger lists them as follows (the number preceding the listing is the inventory number itself):

2. Half cent, 1797. Plain edge. Struck over planchet of large cent. Condition, very fine. $7.50.

3. Half cent, 1797. Lettered edge. Good. Bought from Mehl at private sale, Jan.2, 1937 for $12.50. Scott lists coin "good" at $15.00 but gives no other price. Mehl claims "This coin is seldom found better." Wt: 4.65.

4. Half cent, 1802. VF-20 [Entered in a later style of handwriting. The original grade was given as Very good.] Bought for $4.50. Mehl claims "very good, can be classed as 'fine' for coin."

5. Half cent, 1841. Re-strike, small berries. Proof. Bought for $65.00.

6. Half dollar, 1796. Sixteen stars. Very fine. Bought for $210.00.

7. Half dollar, 1796. Fifteen stars. Fine. Bought for $160.00. Mehl claims "very fine for coin."

Mehl did not provide the Norwebs with any pedigree notes on these coins, so none was included with their listings in the inventory ledgers. The total spent on this occasion was $459.50.

Nine days later, on January 11, the Norwebs made what was the largest single coin purchase in the history of the collection until then. The transaction, totalling nearly $8,000, is outlined separately from this text. A quick glance through its contents will turn up some outstanding rarities, the purchase of any one of which would make numismatic history today. Many traced their pedigrees back through Virgil Brand to Lorin G. Parmelee's collection, which was sold in 1890 by the New York Coin & Stamp Company.

Mrs. Norweb recorded some of B. Max Mehl's comments about these coins. Apparently, he attached a short description of each piece, with some of its history, and added notes about the pedigree as well as his professional opinion about the coin's condition and rarity. These make interesting reading today. We have included several below; the number that precedes the description is the Norweb inventory number given to the coin. Comments are the Norwebs,' primarily Mrs. Norweb's, and in some cases the nomenclature used for particular varieties does not exactly correspond with today's terminology. Nevertheless, the entries are easily understood so we have not changed or added to them.

31. XII Massachusetts Col. Very Good. Bought for $25. Came with a lot of coins from the Brand collection. Mehl writes, "A curious and very old piece, but of course not struck in 1665 [1652 altered to 1665]. Dr. Hall says he bought it at an auction in Maine. The first and only specimen I have ever seen." [This coin was sold to New Netherlands Coin Co. on August 16, 1954.]

32. Immune Columbia Cent 1785. Nova Constellatio. Fine, probably very fine for this coin. Bought for $350.00. Came with coins from the Brand collection. Mehl says, "Crosby III of 1788 and I of 1785. This is the Parmelee specimen. This coin was unknown to Crosby, but according to Dr. Hall, the elder Garrett had one. One of the rarest of Colonial coins." [T. Harrison Garrett's specimen of the Immune Columbia/Nova Constellatio with blunt rays mule was bought from the Dr. Edward Maris collection. Only two specimens are known.]

33. Immune Columbia cent 1785. Nova Constellatio. Fine rays. Very fine. Bought for $400.00. Came with coins from the Brand collection. Mehl says "Crosby no.2, Plate VII-30."

37. Silver Center cent 1792, no plug. Very fine. Bought for $400.00. Mehl states "much rarer variety without the silver center. Excessively rare. This is the original specimen from the great Parmelee sale held in 1890." Came with the Brand collection.

38. New Hampshire cent 1776, large tree. Fine. Bought for $150.00. Came with coins from the Brand collection. Mehl states, "Fine for coin. Extremely rare. Seldom found better." [This piece was later donated to the National Numismatic Collection at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington.]

39. New Hampshire cent 1776, small harp. Good. Bought for $175.00. Came with coins from the Brand collection.

Norweb Purchases from B. Max Mehl—January 11, 1937

The following schedule shows purchases made by the Honorable and Mrs. R. Henry Norweb, Sr. from B. Max Mehl, the Fort Worth, Texas dealer on January 11, 1937. These were the first recorded important coin purchases made by the Norwebs since the death of Mrs. Norweb's father in 1913. Included are a number of major rarities within the colonial and early American series. Mehl's sources probably included Horace L.P. Brand (brother of Virgil Brand) who was distributing coins through B.G. Johnson and others, and the collection of Waldo C. Newcomer, which Mehl distributed on a fixed price basis during the 1930s. The variety descriptions are from the invoice and differ slightly from later nomenclature.

Oak Tree shilling. Re-engraved date (1665)	25.00
1785 Immune Columbia/Nova Constellatio. Ex Parmelee, Brand	350.00
1785 Immune Columbia Nova Constellatio	400.00
1785 Immune Columbia/Vermon Auctori	47.50
1785 Immune Columbia/Georgius III. Ex Parmelee, Brand	150.00
1802 dollar. Proof restrike	125.00
1792 Fusible alloy cent. Ex Parmelee, Brand	400.00
1776 New Hampshire copper. Large tree. Ex Brand	150.00
1776 New Hampshire copper. Small harp. Ex Brand	175.00
1787 Fugio cent. Silver. Crosby plate. Ex Parmelee	800.00
1787 Fugio copper. Crosby plate VIII-2, 3-A. Ex Parmelee, Brand	450.00
1787 Fugio copper. C-6c. Ex Parmelee, Brand	475.00
1792 Birch cent. Ex Brand	450.00
Rosa Americana penny. Pre-patent. Branches	300.00
1722 Rosa Americana twopence. Crowned rose	125.00
1795 Grate token. Lettered edge	25.00
1795 Liberty & Security halfpenny. Asylum edge. Ex Brand	50.00
1792 Washington cent	75.00
Washington Born Virginia copper	75.00
Liverpool halfpenny. Lettered edge	87.50
1774 Virginia silver "shilling." Ex Page, Hall	750.00
Baltimore shilling. Copper	500.00
1783 Chalmers' ring shilling	375.00
French colonies. 5 sols, 1670	30.00
New Yorke token. Pewter	50.00
New Yorke token. Brass	135.00
1787 Nova Eborac. Small head.	65.00
Sommer Islands shilling. Piedfort	275.00
1794 Washington "dollar." B-28. Copper	125.00
1776 Continental currency. Cross ends rev. legend. Pewter. Unique. Ex Brand.	150.00
1776 Continental currency. Dotted rings. Brass. Ex Brand	325.00
1776 Continental currency. Dots cut partially into rings. Brass	250.00
Total	**$7,805.00**

Crosby 28-B. Mehl states, "obverse apparently re-engraved. Excessively rare." Do not believe it is re-engraved.

40. Fugio cent 1787, silver. Stars within each link of chain. Good. Bought for $800.00. Came with Brand collection. Mehl states, "This is the identical coin illustrated in Crosby." [Crosby Plate VII, no.1.]

41. Fugio cent 1787. Very good. Crosby 3-A, plate VIII-2 [sic, really VII-2]. Bought for $450.00. Came with coins from Brand collection. Mehl states, "this is the identical coin illustrated in the great Parmelee Collection. Excessively rare."

56. New Yorke in America Token in brass (1700). Fine. Bought for $135.00. Mehl claims, "Crosby, on page 345, states that at that time, 1875, but one specimen was known and that was owned by Mr. Parmelee. However, since then, another specimen was discovered which was in the Charles Morris Collection, and later in the Jenks sale. It is claimed by some that this coin contained the [sic] earlier display of the American eagle. It is one of the most interesting of the early American coins. When the specimen I offered in the Ten Eyck Collection appeared, it was only the second to have been offered for sale in thirty years. This coin is probably finest specimen known." [This piece was later donated to the National Numismatic Collection at the Smithsonian Institution.]

MCMVII *High Relief Double Eagle*

THE MCMVII HIGH RELIEF DOUBLE EAGLE is considered by many numismatists to be the most beautiful design ever produced on a circulating American coin. President Theodore Roosevelt commissioned Augustus Saint-Gaudens, a well-known sculptor, to redesign the entire American coinage from the cent to the double eagle. As it turned out, Saint-Gaudens, in failing health, completed just the $10 and $20 pieces. The double eagle shown here is of the type released in the autumn of 1907. The date is in Roman numerals, MCMVII, and the devices are in high relief, a sculptured effect. Problems developed in the striking, and it took three blows of the press to bring the design up properly. Accordingly, after 11,250 were minted, the style was revised to a low-relief, shallow format.

60. Continental dollar 1776. CURRENCY. Small date with floriated cross to right. Bought for $150.00. Mehl states, "from an obverse entirely unknown to Crosby, and unpublished [Newman dies 5-D]." Came with coins from Brand collection. Uncirculated. Pewter.

61. Continental dollar 1776. CURENCY. brass. Bought for $325.00. Mehl states, "the excessively rare variety in which the names of the states are surrounded by bees. Crosby knew of but one specimen in the Breevort Collection." Does bees mean beads? Came with coins from the Brand collection. Fine. [This was a specimen of Newman 1-A. Brand owned both of the two known; his second specimen was sold in 1984. Indeed, beads are being referred to.]

62. Continental dollar 1776. CURENCY. brass. Fine. Bought for $250.00. Mehl states, "with dots partly cut into the lines and a dot under N in American. Crosby knew of only one specimen in the great Appleton Collection." [Around 7 to 9 specimens are now thought to exist.]

The friendly relationship the Norwebs forged with B. Max Mehl, starting in 1936, lasted through their peak collecting years in the 1950s. By the latter date, New Netherlands Coin Company had become their favorite source of numismatic material. But the close ties with B. Max Mehl remained strong.

The Collectors at Work (1937-1940)

At the same time they were actively buying coins during the late 1930s, Mrs. Norweb was engaged on another, equally important, numismatic undertaking. Her father Albert's collection was now accessible to her during summer vacations and leaves from the embassy. She spent as much time as was possible working with her father's coin collection, inventorying and checking its contents. Packages that had been sent to Albert shortly before his death in 1913, and that had been bought sight unseen by his executors, had to be opened and their contents integrated into the larger collection. Duplicates had to be found and their locations in the inventory specially marked, for future sale. Coins were to be re-graded, using her own revision of her father's grading system.

Albert Holden's surviving papers, notes, correspondence files, etc. had to be culled for useful information. Pedigree notes he had preserved had to be incorporated into the new inventory ledgers which were being prepared, starting after 1937. His library, or what remained of it, had to be gone through and catalogued for future reference.

The Norweb card file system seems to have been started at this time, as well. Each coin in the collection was given an inventory number in the ledgers, which also contained some descriptive commentary; we have seen some, above. The inventory number was then transferred to an index card, on which the coin's full description was written, including such data as the denomination, date, grade, reference number (i.e., Sheldon, Crosby, Overton, etc, as appropriate). When new reference works were published, the card files were revised to reflect the new numbering systems introduced. Rarity ratings were also assigned to scarce pieces. The card files contained information about the purchase of each coin, such as the vendor's name, date of sale, and purchase price (entered in her father's cost code). In later days, comments by numismatic researchers about individual rarities in the collection were added.

A separate clippings file was begun about this time, also. It contained copies of newspaper or journal articles about particular coins in the collection, especially as they related to the sale or the history of important coins. Finally, a rarities ledger was started, which was to contain photographs and commentary about rare coins in the Norweb Collection. However, this latter project was never maintained, due probably to the sheer number of major coins the Norwebs accumulated over the next 20 or so years.

Mrs. Norweb had learned her habits of orderly record keeping from her father, and Mr. Norweb brought to the collection his own, innate sense of the proper order of things. Together, they made a formidable pair. As the record keeping system they created in these early years grew, they could still manage its size with seeming ease. A numismatic question could be quickly answered by reference to the card files or the clippings files. Questions about a particular coin they owned could be resolved immediately, as their card file system was arranged in *Guide Book* order. Looking up a particular coin only meant going to the appropriate section of the card file to find the special card for that coin. The card contained almost all the information they had about the coin; if there were other sources of information available, such as clippings in the clippings file or a photograph and commentary in the rarities file, references to those other sources were also listed on the card for the coin.

All this orderly record keeping required constant attention and the help of other hands. In the beginning, the Norweb children were pressed into the task. Later, Ambassador and Mrs. Norweb engaged a full time secretary for the job.

There was much work to be done on Albert Holden's coin collection during the late 1930s. Time was of the essence, too. The Norwebs knew as well as anyone else could have, that a war with Germany was inevitable sooner or later, and that once it had begun their lives would be consumed by it. Additionally, they knew that Henry's diplomatic service could carry him far from the United States at any moment, should he be reassigned by the State Department. Accordingly, all the help that was available with ordering the collection was gratefully accepted.

R. Henry Norweb, Jr., his brother Albert, and their sister Jeanne were put to work helping their mother catalogue a large collection of Connecticut state coppers. As we have described earlier, this collection had been sent to Albert Holden, Mrs. Norweb's father, shortly before his death in 1913. He had not opened the parcel, and the collection had been purchased by his executors as a debt on the estate. Mrs. Norweb and her children set to work classifying these difficult coins, using her copy of Henry C. Miller's standard reference, *The State Coinage of Connecticut* (1920).

The Connecticut coppers were entered into the inventory books, being assigned numbers 601 to 756. Under number 653 Mrs. Norweb wrote: "This whole collection of Connecticut cents of 1785, 1786, 1787, and 1788 were in the house on approval at the time of A.F.H.'s death. The trustees in clearing up his affairs bought them sight unseen. E.M.N. [Emery May Norweb] came across them a few years ago and catalogued them 1937."

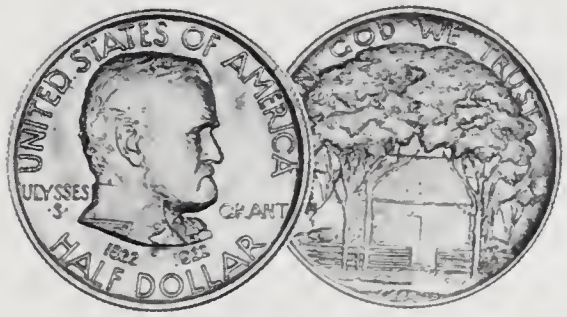
Commemorative Coins

1900 Lafayette Dollar

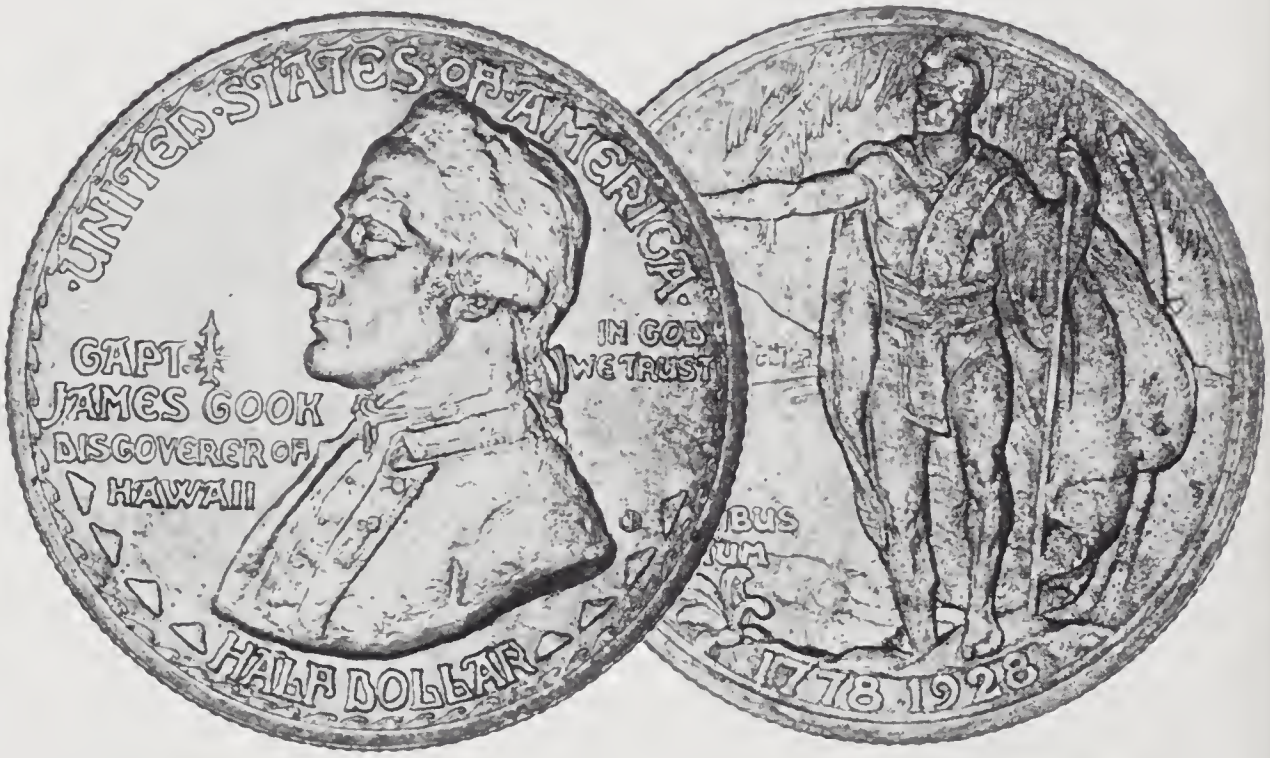
1893 Isabella Quarter

1892 Columbian Half Dollar

1918 Lincoln-Illinois Half Dollar



1922 Grant Half Dollar



1925 California Jubilee Half Dollar

1928 Hawaiian Half Dollar

1935 Old Spanish Trail Half Dollar

1915-S Panama-Pacific $2½

1908 Louisiana Purchase Exposition Jefferson Gold Dollar

COMMEMORATIVE COINS were first struck in the United States in 1892, in which year half dollars were produced. The following year, 1893, saw the minting of the Isabella quarter dollar and additional examples of the Columbian half dollar. Then followed the Lafayette silver dollar in 1900. After that point, 47 different major designs of half dollars appeared, through the year 1954. Thus, the early series of commemorative coins consists of the Isabella quarter, Lafayette silver dollar and 48 different types of half dollars. If date, mintmark, and other varieties are included, 144 different silver commemoratives were minted from 1892 to 1954.

The first gold commemorative coins were dollars made for the Louisiana Purchase Exposition in 1903. One variety bore the portrait of Thomas Jefferson, while the other depicted William McKinley. From then until the 1926 Sesquicentennial Exhibition, over a dozen varieties of gold commemoratives were produced.

A technical case can be made for including in the commemorative series the 1848 quarter eagle with CAL. counterstamped above the eagle on the reverse. These coins, made from California gold, were struck to provide souvenirs for those desiring them. However, traditionally numismatists have begun the commemorative series with the 1892 Columbian silver half dollar.

A number of these Connecticut coppers are historically important. 1787 Miller 1.1-VV is inventoried as number 662. Pasted next to Mrs. Norweb's description of the piece is the front of the original envelope in which it was contained. On the envelope is written the following: "Reserved Specimen 1-1/VV. 1787. The first specimen found, bought from a lot from Steigerwalt Nov. '97. Oct. 1902 Mr. Smith found a second specimen which he donated to me. This duplicate then in cabinet exchanged for Mr. Smith's new specimen." The handwriting is that of Dr. Thomas Hall, the pioneer cataloguer of Connecticut state copper coins, whose work was published in 1892. The coin is significant as the variety's discovery piece.

Another Connecticut state copper shares a similar distinction. Inventory number 687 records a 1787 Miller 16.6-NN.2. Beside the entry Mrs. Norweb pasted part of a letter from Dr. Hall, which discussed the variety. The surviving part of the letter now reads: "For many years I have owned the piece of this combination in my cabinet. Said piece being in [sic] too poor and miserable to warrant my attempting a description in my printed work. It was purposely omitted from the same. Oct. '93: I now find the enclosed duplicate, making only two specimens found and have written in a description in my work published in 1892."

Other Connecticut state copper coins trace their pedigrees back to Dr. Hall's collection, and some beyond that to auction sales of the 1890s and 1870s (Steigerwalt and Hays collections). The few scraps of documentation that survive from this period suggest that much more once accompanied the collection. The same observation may be made for other series in Albert Holden's collection, not only colonial era coins but federal issues as well. It is unfortunate that more was not preserved for future numismatic historians and researchers.

Between 1937, when Henry was appointed Ambassador to Bolivia, and 1940, when he was reassigned far from home, as Ambassador to Peru, the Norwebs devoted much of their available spare time to the coin collection, as well as their other, nonnumismatic interests. Once on station in Lima, Peru, their involvement with United States coins naturally grew less intense than it had been when they were closer to home, in Mexico or the Dominican Republic. However, while they were not as active with U.S. coins after 1940, their important collections of Latin American coins, which they had started while in Chile in 1930, received more attention.

The War Years and After (1940-1952)

Ambassador and Mrs. Norweb served in Lima, Peru from 1940 until Henry was reassigned to Lisbon, Portugal in late 1943. After completing his mission in Portugal, Ambassador Norweb was then transferred to Panama, later to Cuba, and the Norwebs did not return to the United States until late in 1948. Consequently, with more important matters to concern them, little time could be devoted to their coin collection between 1940 and 1948. After their return to their home in Bratenahl, and Henry's retirement from the Department of State in 1948, they could afford to turn their attention to their personal interests, including their coin collection. The four years from 1948 to 1952 were spent in finishing the massive job of inventorying and cataloguing Albert Holden's collection, as well as their own substantial acquisitions, gathering a rich numismatic library for reference purposes, and getting back into touch with old friends like B. Max Mehl. By the early 1950s they were ready to return to their numismatic hobby, prepared to round out the collection of U.S. coins, and to expand their interests into other numismatic fields.

The Halcyon Years 1952-1962

By 1952 Ambassador and Mrs. Norweb had nearly finished inventorying the coins and medals in their collection, the pieces that had been part of the collection since Albert Holden's time and those they had bought during the 1930s. The inventory listing was not fully complete, as Ambassador Norweb once told a friend, even in 1954—there simply were too many individual coins to list them separately, even with the help of a full time secretary. As the years went by, from 1952 to 1957, and more coins were added to the collection, the inventory listings of new accessions grew less and less detailed, until towards the end of this period all that were listed in the ledgers were the coin's denomination, date, country (if not U.S.), and vendor. These were the halcyon days of their joint collecting, and the Norwebs were acquiring coins faster than they could be inventoried. The last entry in their inventory ledgers records coin number 16,999, a Brazilian 20,000 reis of 1889-B, bought from A.H. Baldwin & Sons, Ltd. on May 4, 1957 for ninety dollars. No further entries were recorded, although we know that they were still actively collecting five years later.

A quick glance through the reconstructed inventory of Albert Holden's collection and the records of purchases made by the Norwebs themselves in the 1930s, which will be found *passim*, reveals that in the United States colonial and federal series most issues were present in the collection before 1952. Coins purchased after that date represented, primarily, great rarities in the federal and colonial series, such as the 1861 Philadelphia Mint Paquet double eagle or the Maryland/Lord Baltimore denarium. In addition, the Norwebs expanded certain collecting areas to include die varieties. This expansion was concentrated mainly in the field of copper coins, federal half and large cents, and colonial era issues, especially the Rosa Americana, Wood's Hibernia, and Mark Newby/St. Patrick's issues. Early in 1953 the Norwebs also began adding branch mint double eagles to their collection. This was a field Albert Holden had not made much progress in earlier. It should also be remembered that, as Albert had died in 1913, coins issued after that date were obviously not in his collection; these also had to be included by the Norwebs, so, in addition to rarities, we sometimes find the Norwebs purchasing fairly common issues, like Lincoln cents or Jefferson nickels. Like her father before her, however, Mrs. Norweb bought such easily purchased issues *en bloc*, completing whole series by date and mint in one transaction.

Prior to 1952 the Norwebs had purchased large numbers of coins from most of the important professional numismatists of the day. However, these transactions had all been done through the mail. As far as the surviving documents tell us, Ambassador and Mrs. Norweb had never attended an auction in person or been present at a coin convention. Their involvement in the business side of coin collecting had been superficial, simply because their own personal lives were so demanding of their time and

energies. When they resumed their numismatic activities in 1952, perhaps the most difficult lesson they both had to learn was how to deal with collectors and professionals on a face to face basis.

The first convention we know Mrs. Norweb attended personally was the 1952 American Numismatic Association Convention, which was held in New York City at the old Statler Hotel. The auction that year was divided among three firms, New Netherlands Coin Company, Grunthal & Gans, and Hans M. F. Schulman, who conducted the auction jointly. New Netherlands' sale contained United States colonial and federal issues. Mrs. Norweb traveled from Cleveland to New York, where the family maintained an apartment in River House, and when the bourse opened on August 16, she took her place on the floor along with the scores of other collectors who had come to the convention.

John J. Ford, Jr., who was then New Netherlands Coin Company's "numismatic guiding light", remembers meeting Mrs. Norweb on the bourse floor that year. In an interview with the authors he recalled the meeting:

> I met Mrs. Norweb at the 1952 ANA sale in which New Netherlands was a participant, at New York's old Hotel Statler, which now has a different name, right across the street from the old Pennsylvania Station. She was very proper and very correct; my memory is a little vague about what we discussed, but she did buy some material in the 1952 ANA sale [mostly commemorative half dollars]. She struck me as being rather hesitant and almost like a new collector, even though she was an old collector. This was her re-entry into the market. I think if you tie in the fact that her husband retired from the diplomatic service in 1948, in the interval I guess they were getting their act together.

New Netherlands' owner was Charles Wormser, who had taken over the company from his father Moritz. Charles was gracious and affable, and his important and wealthy clients felt at ease with his correct manners. John Ford, his associate, was dynamic and hard-driving, had an excellent command of the subtleties of United States numismatics, and wrote well. Numismatic research was in the hands of Walter Breen, whose genius, together with the work of John Ford, can be seen in the company's auction catalogues of the time. Together, the three created a first class business team; many believe that the scholarship evident in the company's catalogues, fixed price lists, and numismatic publications set a new high standard.

Mrs. Norweb's introduction to New Netherlands in 1952 was the beginning of a decade-long relationship that spanned the period in which the Norweb family was most active in the hobby. While Ambassador and Mrs. Norweb patronized other companies and professionals, particularly B. Max Mehl (until his death in 1957), the late Richard Picker, and Paul and Art Kagin, the relationship with New Netherlands, and John J. Ford, Jr. in particular, was the most significant one for the future shape of the Norweb Collection itself.

We should note here that this study of the personalities, history, and contents of the Holden-Norweb Collection is concerned almost exclusively with the United States coins and medals acquired by the family over nearly eighty years. The Norweb Collection was not confined to United States coins, however, and some references to the family's interest in foreign numismatics can be found throughout this book. Close personal relationships were formed with several noted professionals overseas. Most prominent were the late Leonard Forrer, Fred Baldwin ("Uncle Fred"), and Douglas Liddell of Spink & Son, Ltd. Another book entirely would be required to do justice to the importance of the Norweb holdings of foreign coins. Here we can only touch upon some isolated aspects of their interests in non-U.S. coinages.

The Norwebs and New Netherlands

As noted, Mrs. Norweb first met John Ford at the ANA Convention in August 1952. He must have impressed her favorably, as by the fall of that year she was buying colonial coins in large numbers from New Netherlands. She was also filling in gaps in other series with coins purchased from the company. The year previously, in April 1951, New Netherlands was recommended to Jane Allen Brand as a trustworthy outlet for her share of the Virgil M. Brand Collection. The recommendation had come from Leonard Forrer the younger, who had handled Jane Allen Brand's coins previously but had, by early 1951, gotten into some difficulties with Mrs. Brand. Leonard Forrer was an excellent numismatist, but his business practices were of the old school and mundane matters like inventory control and accounting were not his strengths. When Jane Allen Brand decided to take her business away from Forrer she asked him for the name of an American company she could have faith in. Charles Wormser was about to be married to Forrer's old secretary, Pat Wolfe-Murray (a direct descendant of General Wolfe of Quebec), so New Netherlands Coin Company immediately came to Forrer's mind.

Early in 1952 Jane Allen Brand began giving New Netherlands coins from the Brand estate for sale, at a commission of 15%. Included were some of the most outstanding rarities in the U.S. colonial field. Starting in 1953 the bulk of these went to Mrs. Norweb. Mrs. Norweb always had first choice of anything new acquired for sale by New Netherlands, so when exceptional pieces came their way, Mrs. Norweb was always informed first and was given first refusal.

Ambassador Norweb's primary interests were in the areas of Latin American coins and proclamation medals, while Mrs. Norweb's were in United States and English coins. They both shared an interest in Canadian coins. These other, non-U.S. numismatic pursuits manifested themselves early in 1953, at least to professionals in the business. Of course, it will be remembered that Albert Holden purchased medieval English silver coins from Tom Elder before 1913; and R. Henry Norweb, Sr. started collecting Latin American coins and medals in the 1930s, while he was stationed in South American countries. Purchases in these fields had always been private ones. However, starting in 1953 the Norwebs began buying actively in these fields, through New Netherlands and at other companies' auctions.

In late 1952 the Brock-University of Pennsylvania Collection came on the market. Wayte Raymond, who had been contacted by the university, recommended New Netherlands as an appropriate vendor for the university's holdings. At the time, the university's "numismatic advisor" was Philip H. Ward, a local stamp dealer and entrepreneur who had acquired the unfortunate nickname of "Piggy." John Ford traveled to Philadelphia to look

Gold 1915 Panama-Pacific Half Dollar

IN 1915 the Panama-Pacific International Exposition was held in San Francisco to commemorate the opening of the Panama Canal and the rebirth of San Francisco from the earthquake and fire of 1906. The Exposition provided the occasion to issue an illustrious series of commemorative coins, including a silver half dollar, gold dollar, quarter eagle, and two varieties of $50 gold pieces.

The coins were struck at the San Francisco Mint and were identified by a tiny S mintmark. The piece shown here bears no mintmark and is struck in gold. It is believed that it was produced at the Philadelphia Mint, where the dies were prepared, before the mintmark was added, and before the dies were shipped to San Francisco. Just two examples are known. The Norweb Collection coin was formerly owned by King Farouk of Egypt.

over the Brock Collection, which included United States and foreign coins, many from the great Parmelee Collection sale and other auctions of the 1890s. Ward asked for Ford's advice on the U.S. section, and using the knowledge he gained, took as his fee from the university many of the choice and rare colonial coins in the Brock Collection. These later reappeared on the market in 1956 through 1958, with some pieces being sold through Harry Forman, a Philadelphia dealer.

Included among the Brock-University of Pennsylvania coins were numerous foreign issues, many of which had been mounted or tooled, as was the common practice years ago. Ford called in an outside expert to evaluate these, added his total estimate to Ford's own valuation of the U.S. coins, and presented the final figure to the University. In the meantime, B. Max Mehl had also been called in to appraise the collection. Mehl's figure was higher than Ford's, and the collection went to B. Max Mehl.

Having lost the collection to Mehl, in December, 1952 New Netherlands sent John Ford to Fort Worth, in the hopes of buying pieces Mrs. Norweb was interested in acquiring. Ford spent a week with Mehl, and was shown Mehl's "back room," where a staff of young ladies was employed to open the thousands of letters Mehl received each week in response to his prolific advertisements in the numismatic and popular press.

The 1953 ANA Convention was held in Dallas, Texas; Abe Kosoff held the official ANA sale that year. Mrs. Norweb traveled from Cleveland to attend. At the convention she ran into John Ford on the bourse floor. After some friendly discussion, she told Ford that New Netherlands would be given all the duplicate coins from her collection for sale through their auctions. She told Ford that many coins had been purchased over the years, before their inventory records were mostly completed, and that on several occassions pieces already in the collection, but whose presence there was not yet realized, had been duplicated by buying identical issues later. This applied to foreign as well as U.S. issues. Mrs. Norweb's duplicate U.S. coins were fed into auction sales starting in early 1954.

New Netherlands did not acquire any of the Norweb duplicate foreign coins, however. After the ANA Convention Mrs. Norweb traveled to New York City, and while there stopped in to see Charles Wormser at New Netherlands' offices. During their meeting she mentioned to Charles that she wanted to deaccession her foreign duplicates through New Netherlands. Charles replied that New Netherlands didn't handle foreign coins, and so that part of the Norweb duplicates was lost. Mrs. Norweb thereupon contacted B. Max Mehl, who handled the foreign material, including crowns and rare gold coins, through his mail bid sales.

During the ANA Convention of 1953 John Ford showed Mrs. Norweb a shoe box of coins he had bought from Mehl in December of the preceding year. At the time he bought them from Mehl, Ford recognized them as English coins of William I through Henry VII. Mehl later told Mrs. Norweb that they were used in Texas in the early 19th century, when small silver coins were scarce! Mrs. Norweb she recognized them for what they were and bought them, for about a dollar each. These were then combined with the English medieval coins her father Albert had bought before 1913, and became the nucleus for the outstanding collection subsequently sold in four parts for several million dollars by Spink & Son, Ltd. starting in 1985.

The King Farouk Sale

For the Norwebs, as well as for the fraternity of collectors and professionals in the United States coin field, the big event of early 1954 was the sale of the fabulous King Farouk Collection, scheduled for nine full days of auction from February 24 to March 6. King Farouk's collection included rarities too numerous to mention here. Suffice it to say that the catalogue was all of 349 pages long, including plates and index; three or more times the average United States auction catalogue of the time. It was being sold at the order of the revolutionary government of Egypt, then under Colonel Abdul Nasser, which had lately overthrown the playboy king. The sale had been given to Sotheby's, but apparently nobody on the staff of the London auction house had any experience in United States regular issue coins, not to mention the hundreds of pattern and off-metal coins Farouk had been persuaded to buy over the years. Accordingly, the job of cataloguing the U.S. coins was given to Fred Baldwin, who at least knew how to use the *Standard Catalogue of United States Coins*. Baldwin also obtained a copy of Adams' and Woodin's book on pattern coins. Fred Baldwin spent part of the ocean voyage from London to Alexandria, Egypt, studying his reference books.

The job of cataloguing Farouk's collection was not made any easier for poor "Uncle Fred" by the new government. The new leaders of Egypt were convinced that Farouk had been taken advantage of by the professionals in the hobby, and to some extent they were right. This translated itself into a suspicion of all dealers, made worse by the Egyptian colonels' suspicion of foreigners of all kinds. When Fred Baldwin catalogued Farouk's coins, he did so in an ornate, grand suite in Farouk's palace, but there were soldiers standing over his shoulder watching his every move, and they had bayonets fixed to their rifles. These were not the easiest conditions under which to catalogue such an important collection. Coupled with Fred Baldwin's lack of understanding of certain of the complexities of U.S. numismatics, and the fact that there were thousands of coins to catalogue and only a few weeks to complete the job, it is not surprising that the U.S. coins in the Farouk Sale were under-catalogued!

When the auction catalogues were finally printed and distributed, collectors of United States coins could hardly believe what they saw in the auction. The cataloguer had combined rare and common coins into large lots in many cases. Despite the importance of many of the pieces in Farouk's collection, the only comments of a research or numismatic sort were the occassional, laconic "rare" or "very rare". Counterfeits abounded throughout the collection, not only in the U.S. section.

The Farouk Sale catalogue divided the collection into large sections of gold and silver, copper, bronze, etc. coins; the collection was further divided into geographical groupings. United States gold coins were positioned near the beginning of the sale, and presented many surprises to collectors. Lot 185, for example, was an eye-opener. It contained 17 double eagles, all of the Saint-Gaudens' design, and was nearly a complete set from 1924

to the final year of the denomination. Lotted together were the rare 1930-S, 1931, 1931-D, and 1932! Grading was limited to an unhelpful "Mostly extremely fine" comment. The final coin in the lot was a 1933 double eagle, but this piece was withdrawn prior to the sale, at the request of the United States Secret Service, since ownership or sale of the 1933 double eagle was, at the time, considered to be technically illegal. Abe Kosoff bid 1,000 pounds sterling for the lot, which was finally hammered down to David Spink, of Spink & Son, London, for 2,800 Egyptian pounds.

Ambassador and Mrs Norweb sailed on the later ill-fated *Andrea Doria*, arriving in Alexandria, Egypt well in advance of the auction. Mrs. Norweb particularly wanted one coin, which was to be found in a lot of 149 pieces. This was the legendary 1913 Liberty head nickel, one of only five specimens known. It had been included in lot 1695, which was described as follows:

> 1695. Five cents nickel (116), dates 1866-1938-D, complete as detailed in the National Coin Albums, also added to the collection are 1913 Liberty head, extra fine and very rare, 1937-D three-legged nickel, very fine and very rare, and nickels from 1938-1948-D (31), all about uncirculated except very few, a choice collection, in two albums. (149)

Mrs. Norweb had become a shrewd and canny collector by early 1954, even though she had been active in person on the auction and convention scene only since 1952. She was aware that Abe Kosoff and Sol Kaplan wanted to buy the 1913 Liberty nickel for their own account, and she knew that if they did one or the other of them would offer her the piece later, at a substantial increase over what they had paid for it in the Farouk sale. Consequently, just before the sale of lot 1695 she approached Abe Kosoff and asked him to buy the coin for her account. This put Abe in the difficult position of having to choose between buying the coin to resell to her later, thus realizing his profit but possibly alienating an important client; or fulfilling his client's wish but losing the substantial profit he could expect on the resale of the piece. Abe wisely chose the latter course, and instructed Sol Kaplan to buy the coin. Sol was the successful bidder for the lot. He in turn sold it to Abe at his original cost, and Abe thereupon sold the 1913 Liberty nickel to Mrs. Norweb, again, at his cost. Mrs. Norweb's strategy saved her a large amount of money she would otherwise have had to pay to acquire the coin, and also taught Kosoff, Kaplan, and the other dealers at the sale that she was a formidable personality, one not to be taken lightly in the business.

The April 1954 issue of *The Numismatist* included Abe's review of the Farouk sale, which makes interesting reading, as much for what it leaves out as for what it includes! The same issue featured reviews of the sale as they appeared in *The Egyptian Gazette* and the international edition of the *Herald Tribune*. The *Egyptian Gazette* noted that most of the bidders at the sale were dealers, who ". . .bid very calmly. They included three women, one of whom spent the time silently knitting to relieve her apparent boredom." The woman referred to was Mrs. Norweb, whose skill with handicrafts was exceptional. She was by no means bored, however. She was, rather, silently knitting, watching her strategy successfully unfolding. She did not need to appear excited or even interested in what what going on. Her bids were in and she knew she was going to return to Cleveland the owner of the 1913 Liberty nickel, as well as many other coins from the Farouk Collection, from rare half cents to gold, no matter what else happened at the sale.

The Mature Collectors

Although Mrs. Norweb and John Ford met for the first time in the summer of 1952, by the time of the 1954 ANA Convention they had become friendly on a personal basis. Even before that, in early 1953, John had acted as her agent in the acquisition of at least one major collection, which was obtained abroad. This was the Tennant Collection, which Mrs. Norweb purchased *en bloc* for over $6,000, paying New Netherlands $1,000 plus John Ford's expenses during his trips.

One coin purchased by Mrs. Norweb in 1954 has an interesting story connected with it. This was a specimen of the rare Canadian 1921 half dollar. Jerry Eisenberg, who had a coin company on 46th Street in New York City called Royal Athena, owned the coin. His father had bought it while on a trip in Ireland, where he found it among other non-Irish coins in a lot. Eisenberg's father paid sixty cents for the rarity! John Ford bought it from Jerry Eisenberg for $200. The *Charlton Guide To Canadian Coins*, the equivalent to our own *Guidebook*, had just been published, and the 1921 half dollar was listed there at $250. Ford sold the coin to Mrs. Norweb for its catalogue value, $250. Thirty years later the identical specimen was sold at auction for $17,600!

The 1954 ANA Convention was held in Mrs. Norweb's home town, Cleveland; the auction was conducted by Mike Kolman's Federal Coin Exchange. John Ford was invited to stay with Mrs. Norweb at her family home in Bratenahl, an adjacent suburb of the city. Ford was shown much of Mrs. Norweb's collection, asked to grade all the U.S. coins and compare his grades to the grades listed on the inventory cards, and make appropriate observations. Ford advised Mrs. Norweb about which coins she could realistically hope to upgrade, and which ones she might as well deaccession.

Earlier that year, Ford and Mrs. Norweb had visited with each other at the Central States Numismatic Society Convention, held in Chicago. There, Ford introduced Mrs. Norweb to Horace Louis Philip Brand, one of Virgil Brand's heirs and owner of a substantial portion of the former Virgil Brand Collection. Horace was actively selling coins, but, as his letterhead proclaimed, he "sold only to dealers." Ford's introduction paved the way for Mrs. Norweb to acquire coins directly from Horace Brand, instead of having to go through another dealer to reach the source. Between her contact through New Netherlands with Jane Allen Brand, and her introduction to Horace Brand arranged by John Ford on behalf of New Netherlands, Mrs. Norweb was tied into the major portion of what remained of the Brand Collection in 1954, which was substantial. Some Brand coins had already entered the collection, in 1937, through her purchases from B. Max Mehl, who had bought Brand coins from B.G. Johnson, among others. Today, many of the Norweb Collection rarities, especially in the U.S. colonial field, trace their pedigrees to Virgil Brand, and through his collection, to the outstanding sales of the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Horace Brand agreed to let Mrs. Norweb and John Ford look over his inventory, and they made plans to spend a week in

Chicago as soon as the ANA Convention ended. Following the ANA Convention, John Ford and Mrs. Norweb spent a full week at Horace Brand's vaults in the Chicago Board of Trade Building, going through his holdings and choosing the coins she was interested in purchasing. These were primarily Latin American coins. They would arrive at the bank shortly before opening time and stay until closing time, eating lunch in the vault. John Ford remembers being impressed with Mrs. Norweb's knowledge about coins. He also remembers that she could eat a pastrami sandwich and drink beer out of a paper cup, just like "one of the boys;" yet, when Horace Brand would enter the vault and click his heels in the Prussian style, Mrs. Norweb could proffer her hand for kissing as if she were back in the diplomatic service. She had an easy way of getting along with whatever different type of person she was dealing with at the time, and seemingly could slip from stiff formality into loose conviviality in the blink of an eye.

By 1955 Mrs. Norweb had been actively buying coins in face to face transactions or in person at auction sales for three years. She was beginning to become more cautious than she had been before, and a distinct air of uncertainty was noticeable about her then. She plainly felt she had been taken advantage of by certain other professionals, and the closeness of her relationship with New Netherlands Coin Company, and her personal relationship with John Ford, grew stronger. New Netherlands became, more than ever before, her primary source for coins, coin information, numismatic books, and coin supplies. While she bought actively from other dealers, such as Art and Paul Kagin of Hollinbeck Coin Company, by 1955 New Netherlands Coin Company, in the person of John J. Ford, Jr., was firmly ensconced as the Norweb family's numismatic advisor in the area of United States coins. A similar relationship was enjoyed with Fred Baldwin, of Baldwin's, London, who acted as the Norwebs' advisor for foreign coins.

Ambassador and Mrs. Norweb had a particular way of doing business with the coin dealers they patronized. Mrs. Norweb never bargained over a coin's price. Her style was direct and forthright. If she was interested in a coin, she would ask its price. If she felt the price was reasonable, she would buy it. If she did not think so, she would thank the owner for the opportunity of looking at it, and walk away. John J. Ford thought that this way of doing business stemmed from Mrs. Norweb's anxiety about being taken advantage of by a seller. Dave Bowers, who got to know Mrs. Norweb after 1955, agreed. Both Bowers and Ford also felt that her buying style betrayed a very sophisticated collector at work.

Once everyone she dealt with got to know her style, it soon became evident that pricing a coin up to its highest potential retail value was a sure way of losing its sale to Mrs. Norweb. By 1956 she had been in the marketplace long enough to have a good feeling for the true value of the coins being offered to her. Asking for the last dollar from her was guaranteed to lose her business, so anyone interested in selling to her was sure to price his coins at something lower than full retail value. This obviously saved the Norwebs a fair amount of money in the long run.

There was also a psychological gambit to this buying style. Bowers remembers feeling that when Mrs. Norweb said no thank you to a coin, he asked himself if he had priced it accurately. Even if she did not know for sure what a reasonable price for a particular coin might be, simply by declining to buy it Mrs. Norweb ensured that the seller would have to re-think his pricing on the piece. She was, after all, one of the most important players in the coin market of the 1950s, and if she declined a sale there might not be many others who would accept it.

Mrs. Norweb had her own way of buying through auction sales, as well. As she had done many years earlier, when she worked over auction catalogues for her father Albert, first she would consult with Ambassador Norweb about lots that they might be interested in. Coins offered would be compared to their inventory listings, to ensure there would be no duplications if they were bought. Potential upgrades would also be noted. Price levels were then discussed, and a maximum expenditure per lot was arrived at through discussion. Their bids were then listed on paper. The next step was to visually inspect the coins offered, after which adjustments, if needed, could be made to their bid levels. Mrs. Norweb often made the visual inspection herself.

Once these preliminaries were over, the real business of buying coins at auction could begin. The bid list they had drawn up would be divided into sections, and each section would be given to a different agent bidder. Usually, if she was to attend the sale herself, Mrs. Norweb would assign one section to her own care. Occasionally, the same coins would be assigned to different agent bidders, but with different maximum expenditures, one higher than the other. At the time of the auction sale, then, there could be as many as three or four different bidders all acting on behalf of the Norweb Collection, none of whom was aware that anyone other than himself was bidding for the Norwebs. If Mrs. Norweb was at the auction, too, then there might be as many as five active bidders, all vying for coins destined for the same collection! Sometimes, two different agents could be bidding against each other for the same coin, without knowing that their clients were one and the same. And if Mrs. Norweb herself stepped into the bidding war for the coin, the entire picture would seem utterly confusing to everyone.

The strategy was simple, its sole purpose being to hide the Norwebs' interest in particular lots. It was employed not so much for secrecy, as everyone in the coin business was aware of the Norwebs' importance. Rather, it was a protective measure against the possibility of being "run up" on a lot, of being fooled into increasingly higher bids for a coin by non-existent mail or floor bids called by an auctioneer who saw Mrs. Norweb's interest in a lot and who decided to wring the last dollar from her for it. Needless to say, this practice was uncommon, as no auction house could stay in business very long if the practice were discovered. However, its usage was a measure of the anxiety felt by Mrs. Norweb in the later 1950s, which John J. Ford, Jr. detected in her earlier.

By the late 1950s the Norweb Collection of United States coins was nearly complete, or at least as nearly complete as it ever would become. Mrs. Norweb told John Ford that coins were getting too expensive to afford now. In addition, her interests had changed focus, and she was pursuing her growing collection of English silver and gold coins with more and more enthusiasm. These latter would, ultimately, supplant U.S. coins as her primary collecting goal. Only a few U.S. rarities remained outstanding in Mrs. Norweb's mind, among them the 1827 original quarter dollar, which she still lacked. The story of its acquisition marks the beginning of the end of the long relationship between the Norwebs and New Netherlands Coin Company.

Early in 1957 New Netherlands acquired the Ely-Massamore-

Private Gold Coins

1855 gold $50 piece produced in San Francisco, California by Wass, Molitor & Company. Although rare today, especially in the preservation of the one shown here, in the Gold Rush era day they were a frequently used coin.

$20 gold issue of the United States Assay Office of Gold, San Francisco, 1853. A quasi-official government mint, the U.S. Assay Office of Gold produced coins in $10, $20 and $50 denominations, with the $20 shown here being the most popular.

1849 $5 gold piece of the Oregon Exchange Company. This issue, and the related $10, were made from metal brought back from the California gold fields.

1860 $10 gold piece by Clark, Gruber & Company, Denver bankers and refiners. Pictured is a stylistic representation of Pikes Peak. The firm produced coins of various denominations from $2½ to $20.

1860 $5 issued by the Mormon community in Salt Lake City, and bearing the imprint of the Deseret Assay Office.

PRIVATE OR TERRITORIAL gold coins were produced by many entities during the 19th century. In nearly all instances, such coins were struck to provide a medium of exchange in the channels of commerce, in geographical areas in which there was no federal mint and where quantities of raw gold were available. Shown on this page are representative western issues.

San Francisco was the center of such production, and in that city and in outlying communities, from 1849 through 1855, a number of different bankers, assayers, refiners, and entrepreneurs put their imprint on various issues. Coiners included Augustus S. Humbert, who was appointed the official United States Assayer of Gold and who began his activities in 1851, later becoming affiliated with Moffat & Company, which firm's facilities were incorporated into the San Francisco Mint opened by the government in 1854. Wass, Molitor & Company, a latecomer to the field, produced pieces dated 1852 and 1855, with the large 1855 $50 piece being the most impressive and famous. Baldwin & Co., Pacific Company, J.S. Ormsby (Sacramento), Kellogg & Company, and others produced pieces which saw varying degrees of acceptance among citizens and tradesmen.

To the north of California in the Oregon Territory settlers returning from the gold fields brought with them quantities of nuggets and dust. A group of private individuals whose surnames are recorded in the initials on the obverse of the piece, K.M.T.A.W.R.C.S. (Kilborne, Magruder, Taylor, Abernathy, Willson, Rector, Campbell, and Smith), set up a private mint which produced $5 and $10 pieces bearing a beaver design on the obverse.

In Colorado, the banking firm of Clark, Gruber and Company, originally from Leavenworth, Kansas, set up a private mint and produced pieces in 1861 and 1862, later selling its facilities to the United States government. The government intended to continue the minting operations, but it developed that assaying and refining were the only services provided. Years later, in 1906, the Denver Mint was opened, but in a new facility.

In Salt Lake City, the Mormons possessed gold brought back from California. Desiring to produce their own coinage, the citizens, under the supervision of the Mormon Church, set up a private mint which struck coins dated 1849, 1850, and 1860. Denominations included $2½, $5, $10, and $20.

Although private gold coins were not issued under the authority of the federal government (certain United States Assay Office of Gold and related California issues being an exception), they were allowed to circulate. Their acceptance depended on the reputation of the issuer, and those which were of full weight and value fared better than those which were underweight. Curiously, one of the first "collectors" of private gold coins was the Mint Cabinet in Philadelphia. When specimens of California gold coins were sent to the Mint for assay and evaluation, the custodians of the collection there kept selected pieces.

Newcomer specimen of the original 1827 quarter dollar. John Ford and Charles Wormser decided to offer it in their June 1957 auction sale. They did not inform Mrs. Norweb that they had the coin, although until then their usual practice had been to give her first crack at newly acquired rarities. When Mrs. Norweb saw the coin in their June catalogue, she was understandably angered at what she saw as a failure of service due her. At the auction sale itself, she bid in person for the coin but was unsuccessful. Her failure to acquire the coin, coupled with her anger at New Netherlands, led to a break in her relations with the company that lasted for the rest of 1957.

Early in 1958 Mrs. Norweb resumed relations with New Netherlands and began purchasing coins from them once again. However, the rapprochement was short-lived. In September 1958 the great numismatist and collector F.C.C. Boyd died. His collection, amassed over many years, contained outstanding colonial coins, some of which were on Mrs. Norweb's want list. As recounted by Ford, Boyd's widow called on John Ford to appraise her late husband's collection, and between the months of April and June 1959 he worked on Boyd's collection. Believing that the collection would be available for sale, and wanting to put relations with Mrs. Norweb on a firmer footing than before, Ford mentioned the appraisal he was conducting to Mrs. Norweb. Together, they went over her want list and the inventories of her collection of colonials, and decided which coins in the Boyd Collection could fill gaps in the Norweb Collection. Ford promised Mrs. Norweb that he would try to get her as much of the Boyd Collection as she needed, assuming that Boyd's widow was going to sell the collection to New Netherlands.

However, Mrs. Boyd had learned much from her husband, and with her lawyer's advice decided that her husband's estate would be better served if the collection was sold off slowly, over a period of years, rather than all at once to a single buyer. Mrs. Boyd knew that selling the collection in a short space of time might flood the market. Accordingly, she decided not to sell at that time. Wanting to play fairly with both Mrs. Norweb and Mrs. Boyd, Ford told Mrs. Boyd that Mrs. Norweb would be interested in buying the bulk of Boyd's collection, in order to acquire the pieces she was particularly interested in. For some unstated reason, Mrs. Boyd determined that Mrs. Norweb was not to have the collection. This decision, combined with her lawyer's advice and her own sense of marketing her husband's collection, removed any possibility of Ford's fulfilling his earlier promise to Mrs. Norweb to get for her the coins she wanted from Boyd's estate.

When he tried to explain the turn of events to Mrs. Norweb, she became exceedingly angry at Ford, blaming him for denying her the opportunity of acquiring the colonial coins she needed and accusing him of making a secret deal with Mrs. Boyd for his own benefit. By the spring of 1960 Mrs. Norweb broke all relations with New Netherlands Coin Company, and did not refer publicly to either New Netherlands or John Ford again. In 1962, after the break, Ford located the finest known specimen of the original 1827 quarter and offered to put Ambassador Norweb in touch with the owner. He told Ambassador Norweb that he felt he owed it to Mrs. Norweb, as she had missed the chance of buying the piece New Netherlands sold in 1957. Ambassador Norweb, who did not feel as strongly opposed to Ford as his wife did, agreed to the deal, and the Norweb Collection finally acquired its specimen of the rarity. Thus ended one of the closest relationships ever formed between professional and client in the history of United States numismatics.

Donations To Posterity
The American Numismatic Society

The Norweb family established a close relationship with the American Numismatic Society during the 1950s, one that is still maintained today by R. Henry Norweb, Jr. Ambassador Norweb was appointed to the Council of the ANS in 1960, and Mrs. Norweb received a similar appointment eight years later, in 1968. They both served with distinction until 1978, when advancing years and Mrs. Norweb's failing sight required their resignations. To honor their long and meritorious service, they were both appointed Honorary Life Councillors of the Society. To preserve the family tradition of service to the institution, their son, R. Henry Norweb, Jr., was appointed to the Council on their resignation, and he serves today in that capacity.

The Norwebs were among the most important benefactors to the collections of coins and medals conserved at the American Numismatic Society in New York City. Their contributions began in the 1950s. The pace of their donations to the Society increased during the 1960s and 1970s. By 1978, thanks to their gifts, some parts of the ANS collections had become the most extensive and important of any conserved by numismatic museums around the world.

Gifts given in different years were recorded in the Society's *Annual Reports*, and a quick glance through the reports for 1955 - 1978 will reveal the enormous extent of their donations. The most important gifts were made over the 13 years from 1965 to 1978.

In 1965 the Norwebs donated several varieties of the *Washington Before Boston* medal (Julian MI-1), including a pewter shell of the unadopted obverse design and a bronze shell of the error date reverse, as well as a bronze specimen of the original, Paris Mint striking. Also given in this year was a United States 1794 silver dollar, and over 1,000 Canadian and English tokens.

In 1966 they donated the famous gold 1758 *Capture of Louisburg* medal, the identical specimen given to Admiral Edward Boscawen, who led the British forces that captured the French fortification on Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia. Also given this year was a muling of an 18th century Middlesex penny (D&H 235/243) with an undated (1795) Washington Liberty and Security penny, along with 1,400 other British merchants' tokens of the 18th century, and 1,000 Canadian tokens.

In 1967 the Norwebs donated 92 Peruvian gold coins, together with numerous 17th-century English tokens and additional Canadian tokens. In 1968 they gave specimens of the very rare Uruguyan 1854 40 reales; and the famous 1717 twelve deniers of Perpignan, an important coin for the study of French-American colonial numismatics.

The single most important donation, in terms of value, was given in 1969. This was the sixth known specimen of the 1787 Brasher doubloon, the piece discovered by workmen in Philadelphia in 1897 while working underground in a city street. First publicly sold by the Chapmans in their auction of the Allison Jackman Collection (1918), the later pedigree of the specimen includes Newcomer, Col. E.H.R. Green, B.G. Johnson, F.C.C. Boyd, and the New Netherlands Coin Company. The Norwebs

The famous 1913 Liberty Head nickel. This specimen was purchased by Ambassador and Mrs. R. Henry Norweb through Abe Kosoff and Sol Kaplan at the King Farouk sale in Cairo in 1954. In 1977 the Norwebs donated their specimen to the National Numismatic Collection at the Smithsonian Institution. At the time of the donation, the piece was valued at $225,000. (Photograph courtesy *Coin World*)

Coin World®

THE WEEKLY NEWSPAPER OF THE ENTIRE NUMISMATIC FIELD

COMBINING WORLD COINS & NUMISMATIC SCRAPBOOK

Entire Contents Copyright 1983 by Amos Press Inc., Sidney, Ohio 45367 (USPS No. 120700) (ISSN 0010-0447)

Volume 24 Issue 1187 January 12, 1983 Single Copy U.S. $1.25

Ohio scholar gives 52-piece collection of U.S. Colonial coins to Smithsonian

Christmas came Dec. 28 for the Smithsonian Institution and the National Numismatic Collection.

The Smithsonian became recipient that day of a "fantastic Christmas present"—a 52-piece collection of U.S. Colonial coins donated by Cleveland collector and numismatic benefactor Emery May Norweb in memory of Dr. Vladimir Clain-Stefanelli, curator of the Division of Numismatics, whose death occurred Oct. 19.

'All the great rarities" are included in the 52-coin collection, said Mrs. Elvira Clain-Stefanelli, curator of the Division of Numismatics at the Smithsonian. The coins had been loaned to the Smithsonian in 1961.

Mrs. Clain-Stefanelli reported that the Smithsonian is "very, very happy" to receive the coins, calling the donation a "fantastic Christmas present."

The collection contains "all the great rarities, all the beauties," the Smithsonian curator said. Included are 13 silver Massachusetts coins, Colonial rarities from Maryland, Connecticut, Virginia and many other pieces.

The transaction between Mrs. Norweb and the Smithsonian was conducted by her son, R. Henry Norweb, Jr., who carried a letter from his mother to Mrs. Clain-Stefanelli.

"You have no idea with what emotion I send you this letter," Mrs. Norweb wrote, "asking that my gift of Colonial coins to the Smithsonian be in the name of your husband.

"He meant a great deal to me in friendship, and I have an ocean of respect for his knowledge and expertise."

The collection is not the first to come from a member of the Norweb family, who have donated rarities such as the Brasher doubloon and a 1913 Liberty Head 5-cent piece in the past.

Particularly remarkable among the coins presented to the Smithsonian is the 13-piece collection of Massachusetts silver coinage including two New England shillings, both Noe 1-A varieties, and the rare New England sixpence, one of seven pieces in existence, the N-4 variety.

Two of the three Willow Tree coins are included in the Norweb donation: the sixpence and the shilling, both dated 1652. All four denominations of Oak Tree coinage are in the Norweb collection, including the 1662 twopence and the threepence, sixpence and shilling, the latter three all dated 1652. Four Pine Tree silver coins are in the donation, including the threepence and sixpence and two shillings, both Large Planchet and Small Planchet pieces.

The Norweb gift included everything in the Massachusetts silver coinage series but two coins; of those two coins there is a total known mintage of five pieces to be distributed among all the world's collectors of Colonial coinage.

Missing is the New England threepence, of which there are only two specimens known, and the equally rare Willow Tree threepence, which has a total known mintage of three coins.

Three Lord Baltimore coins, lacking only the extremely rare copper penny to make a complete denominational set, are among the Norweb contribution. Struck in England for use in Maryland, the three coins in the donated material include the shilling, sixpence and groat (or fourpence), all in silver.

From New Jersey are three St. Patrick coins, struck by Mark Newby, an Irishman who emigrated to the Colonies in 1681. Included are two copper halfpennies and a copper farthing, the latter not authorized for circulation in the Americas.

Two of the mysterious undated New Yorke tokens are featured in the donated collection, including a specimen in brass and a second in what is described in the Smithsonian listing as "lead," and called "pewter" in *A Guide Book of United States Coins*. Possibly struck from dies produced in Holland, the unusual spelling was common in the region from about 1664 to 1710.

The Norweb gift is well represented in Rosa Americana pieces, produced by Englishman William Wood for use in Ireland and the Colonies. Six specimens of the Bath metal coins (a composition of 75 percent copper, 24.7 percent zinc and 0.3 percent silver) were given to the Smithsonian. Included are a 1722 twopence, a penny bearing the same date and a halfpenny, also 1722, representing a complete denomination set for that year. Also complete is a 1723 denominational set of the twopence, penny and halfpenny. Only the undated twopence and the 1724 pennies are not part of the Norweb collection given to the National Collection.

Please turn to page 30

The extremely rare New England sixpence and the rare Willow Tree sixpence were among the coins given to the Smithsonian Institution by Cleveland numismatist Emery May Norweb. The coins are shown enlarged.

Reproduction of the upper part of the front page of the January 12, 1983 edition of *Coin World*. The article records and commemorates the important donation to the Smithsonian Institution of 52 United States colonial era coins, including the extremely rare New England sixpence and the rare Willow Tree sixpence. (Courtesy *Coin World*)

purchased the coin from John J. Ford, Jr., of New Netherlands. Only one other numismatic museum possesses a 1787 Brasher doubloon, the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, where the Eckfeldt specimen is conserved.

In 1971 the Norwebs donated a gold thrysma and 10 silver pennies of Anglo-Saxon England. In 1972 came Peruvian and Chilean gold coins, many collected during the Norwebs' diplomatic assignments in those countries. In 1973 they gave an aureus of the usurper Allectus, minted in England; this piece was discovered in 1876, and was then just the third example known.

In 1974 the Norwebs donated 69 silver pennies of William the Conqueror, representing almost a complete mint set of one issue of this Norman king (BMC viii). Further English coins followed in their 1975 donations, including a gold Celtic stater of the Bellovaci tribe, Anglo-Saxon sceattas, and Tudor and Stuart coins.

An important donation was made in 1976, the beginnings of the single most significant series given by the Norwebs to the American Numismatic Society, coins of the English king Charles I. Eight silver coins from the Lundy Mint, six specimens of the Pontefract Castle emergency issues, a gold unite dated 1642 of the Oxford Mint, and five half crowns from the Weymouth Mint were given, along with another Celtic gold stater and a complete set of the portcullis coinage of Elizabeth I.

The following year, 1977, the Norwebs donated 194 pieces of Charles I's gold and silver coinage. This donation established the ANS as holding the most important collection of the coinage of Charles I in the world, surpassing even the British Museum's collection. This large donation represented the balance of the Norweb collection of Charles I issues, and included a 1644 Oxford crown and a Truro crown showing the king riding at a full gallop.

Their resignation for health reasons from the Council followed the next year. A final donation, of 138 copper tokens and patterns from Charles I's reign, marked the closing of an exceptionally important numismatic relationship. The Norwebs favored the American Numismatic Society in many ways, and even after their joint resignations maintained close touch with the Society and its staff. As noted, the relationship continues today, under the aegis of their son, R. Henry Norweb, Jr.

The National Numismatic Collection

Under the able direction of Vladimir Clain-Stefanelli, Executive Director of the National Numismatic Collection at the National Museum of American History (popularly, the Smithsonian Institution) from 1956 until 1982, and his wife Elvira Clain-Stefanelli, Executive Director 1982 to date, the Smithsonian's numismatic collection grew to become one of the two great institutional collections of United States coins. During the long tenure of the Clain-Stefanellis a close relationship developed with Ambassador and Mrs. Norweb. The relationship led to several important gifts from the Norwebs to America's national coin collection.

Ambassador Norweb helped to sponsor Vladimir Clain-Stefanelli's application for the director's position in 1956. They had met earlier in the 1950s at the American Numismatic Society. Later in the 1950s, when the Clain-Stefanellis were at the Smithsonian's old building, Ambassador Norweb used to drop by for visits and numismatic chats while he was in Washington, doing consulting business for the Department of State on Latin American affairs.

One of the first projects the Clain-Stefanellis applied themselves to was the creation of exhibits documenting the coinage in circulation at the time of the American Revolution. This was to include both U.S. colonial era coins, as well as coins of the world in circulation in the 1770s and 1780s. However, an unfortunate gap in the National Collection's holdings meant that examples of our own colonial era coins would be under-represented, and as the Collection did not have then, nor does it have today, funds for purchasing coins, the exhibition appeared doomed to incompleteness.

Through a generous and important loan, the Norwebs made it possible for the National Collection to exhibit a noteworthy sample of U.S. colonial era coins. In 1960 the Norwebs extracted 52 colonial coins from their collection, many purchased years earlier by Albert F. Holden, and loaned them to the National Collection on an extended basis. These were incorporated in the Clain-Stefanelli's exhibit of Revolutionary War era coinages, and were first displayed to the public in March 1961.

These colonial era coins were on loan to the National Collection until 1982. In December of that year, in memory of the passing of Vladimir Clain-Stefanelli and to commemorate R. Henry Norweb's earlier retirement from the diplomatic service, the Norwebs transferred the loan into a gift to the American people.

Among the 52 colonial era coins donated to the National Collection were: two New England shillings and sixpence; a Willow tree shilling and sixpence; an Oak and Pine tree denomination set; a Maryland-Lord Baltimore denomination set, including the groat; New Yorke in America tokens in brass and lead, the latter very rare; a Rosa Americana 1722 and 1723 denomination set; a pair of Higley coppers; a Virginia "shilling" and penny; a Vermont and Massachusetts date set; a set of Chalmers' coinage, including the rings shilling; a New Hampshire copper, large harp variety; a Woods Hibernia date set; and important New York coppers, including a 1786 NON VI VIRTUTE VICI, 1787 Clinton Cent, 1787 Indian/New York arms, and a 1787 Eagle on Globe.

The single most valuable donation by the Norwebs to the National Collection was their specimen of the famous 1913 Liberty nickel. This specimen was donated to the National Collection on November 3, 1977, in commemoration of the Norweb's 60th wedding anniversary. Vladimir Clain-Stefanelli traveled to Cleveland where the formal transfer of ownership and possession was to take place. After the deed of gift was signed, Dr. Clain-Stefanelli carefully wrapped the coin in a handkerchief and carried it back to Washington. At the time of the gift, the specimen was valued by Dr. Clain-Stefanelli at $225,000. To establish a reasonable value for the gift, Dr. Clain-Stefanelli wrote to Q. David Bowers asking if the figure of $225,000 was realistic. Bowers replied that it seemed so to him, saying that in 1975 his firm, then named Bowers and Ruddy Galleries, owned a half interest in the Hydeman specimen of the 1913 Liberty nickel, and had paid $105,000 for their part ownership, making a total purchase price of $210,000 for that coin. The Hydeman specimen was subsequently purchased by Dr. Jerry Buss. Ten years after Bowers' firm purchased their half interest in the coin, it was sold as part of Dr. Buss' collection by Superior Galleries, realizing $385,000.

Mrs. Emery May Norweb addressing the Western Hemisphere section of the 1973 International Numismatic Congress, held at the American Numismatic Society in New York City. (Photograph courtesy of *Coin World*)

Photograph taken at the 1973 International Numismatic Congress, held at the American Numismatic Society in New York City. On the left we see Ambassador R. Henry Norweb, in the center is noted numismatist John Jay Pittman, while Mrs. Norweb is to the right. (Photograph courtesy of *Coin World*)

It is impossible to put an accurate dollar value on all the coins and medals donated by the Norweb family to the American Numismatic Society and the National Numismatic Collection, simply because the size of the donations was so large. However, a very rough estimate of their value would have to fall in the range of several million dollars. More significant than the mere monetary value of their gifts, however, is the lasting value of their importance to numismatic scholarship and the continued vitality of the hobby. By donating outstanding coins to the two major public numismatic institutions in our country, the Norwebs ensured that these coins could be seen and appreciated by generations of scholars and collectors yet to come. Their donations are most fitting and durable memorials to a long-shared love of numismatics.

Honors and Awards

Emery May Norweb joined the American Numismatic Association in 1914. Fifty years later, at the ANA Convention in Cleveland in 1964, she was awarded the Association's gold 50 year membership medal. On her death, she was the ANA's oldest continually active member, having been a regular member for 70 years!

Besides the ANA, Mrs. Norweb was a member of the Royal Numismatic Society, Canadian Numismatic Association, and the New York Numismatic Club. A long time member of the American Numismatic Society, she was the first woman appointed to that body's council, serving for 10 years in that capacity from 1968 to 1978. She acted as chairperson of the ANS United States Committee during this time. In 1978 Mrs. Norweb was appointed an honorary Life Councillor to the ANS.

To honor her many important donations to the National Numismatic Collection, Mrs. Norweb was elected a Fellow of the Smithson Society in 1978, receiving, with her husband, the James Smithson Society gold medal and life membership.

In 1953 President Eisenhower selected Mrs. Norweb to serve on the United States Assay Commission of that year.

Mrs. Norweb was a life trustee of the Holden Arboretum and the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. She served as president of the Cleveland Museum of Art from 1962 to 1972, the first woman ever to serve the C.M.A. in that capacity. She was a member of the executive board of the Cleveland Playhouse.

Together with her husband, in 1973 Emery May Norweb served on the organizing committee, sponsored by the American Numismatic Society and the Smithsonian Institution, which made arrangements for the first meeting of the International Numismatic Congress to be held in the United States. Mrs. Norweb acted as chairperson of the Western Hemisphere section of the landmark meeting. In concert with Mr. and Mrs. Samuel R. Milbank, the Norwebs organized a grand reception for over 200 guests of the I.N.C. held in the Medieval Sculpture Hall of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City.

Mrs. Norweb died on March 27, 1984.

R. Henry Norweb, Sr. was a member of the American Numismatic Association, the Royal Numismatic Society, the Canadian Numismatic Association, and the New York Numismatic Club. He was a member of the American Numismatic Society, serving on that body's Council from 1960 until 1978. In the latter year Mr. Norweb was appointed an honorary Life Councillor to the ANS.

He was a life member of the James Smithson Society, receiving the Society's gold medal, together with his wife, in 1978. Mr. Norweb served as president of the John Huntingdon Fund for Education, and was a trustee of Kenyon College.

In 1966 President Johnson selected him to serve on the United States Assay Commission of that year.

Ambassador Norweb died on October 1, 1983.

Looking back over 70 years of involvement with coin collecting, Mrs. Norweb told *Coin World* in 1978: "We are grateful we have been allowed to live this long and to collect almost to the end." Present and future generations of collectors, we are sure, share her sentiment.

Ambassador and Mrs. Norweb were well known to the numismatic fraternity, and many friendships developed between the Norwebs and other, equally well known, collectors. John Jay Pittman, noted numismatist, kindly offered his thoughts about the Norwebs, and we are happy to share them with our readers:

> At the Palace Auctions of the King Farouk Numismatic Collections in Cairo, Egypt in February-March, 1954, I first met the Norwebs—Mrs. Emery May Norweb and her husband, Ambassador R. Henry Norweb. It soon became evident that they were very interested in the coins in the auction as well as numismatics in general. We had a number of pleasant meetings in Cairo and vicinity and I soon realized they were very knowledgable with respect to our hobby.
>
> I learned that Ambassador Norweb was primarily interested in coins of Latin America, especially Cuba and Peru and other countries, where he had served in the U.S. diplomatic corps. Mrs. Norweb appeared to be interested in all series of coins, especially those of the English-British world and the United States. I also learned of her great interest in early American colonial coins, as well as the early hammered coins of the British Isles. She was a diligent student of history and art, and this interest was very apparent in her numismatic studies.
>
> On occasional business trips to Cleveland, Ohio I was invited to their home to visit and discuss coins. I was also privileged to be shown portions of their collections in downtown Cleveland bank vaults. Mrs. Norweb told me many interesting stories of her early collecting years.
>
> Ambassador Norweb was also interested in Canadian coins. In 1960 he attended the Canadian Numismatic Association Convention in Sherbrooke, Quebec, Canada, where he obtained a number of Canadian coins. In 1961 the Norwebs attended the C.N.A. Convention in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, and I had a chance to view some of their Canadian rarities at a private display.
>
> In September 1973, the International Congress of Numismatics met in the U.S.A. Mrs. Norweb was very active in this gathering, especially in New York.
>
> Besides being astute collectors, both Mr. and Mrs. Norweb were very personable individuals. They are to be remembered because of their great interest in numismatics and their willingness to give a good deal of their time to numismatic societies, as well as generous donations from their collections to a number of museums.

Group photograph taken during the American Numismatic Association's annual convention held in Cleveland in 1964. From the left are: Ambassador R. Henry Norweb, Margo Russell (editor of *Coin World*), Eva Adams (Director of the Mint), Mrs. Norweb, and Robert McNamara (general chairman of the convention). (Photograph courtesy of *Coin World*)

The Norwebs and their forebears have contributed a rich legacy to American history. Besides their other cultural activities already mentioned, the Norwebs contributed towards the creation of the great mosaic flooring now gracing the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C. In the field of numismatics, their presence has left an indelible mark; a remembrance of fine people collecting outstanding coins, appreciating their various aspects, sharing their coins and knowledge with others, and being an integral part of the numismatic scene. Certainly the hobby is richer for the Norwebs, past and present, having come our way.

In conclusion, the reader is reminded that the United States and early American coins in the Norweb cabinet have their own stories to tell. Many have important pedigrees and are of outstanding quality. This information will be found in the series of planned auction catalogues produced by the present authors and others at Bowers and Merena in conjunction with the sale of the Norweb Collection of United States coins.

APPENDIX I

Albert Holden's Inventory

(A Reconstruction)

This reconstruction of Albert Holden's coin collection includes only United States federal and colonial era coins. At the same time he possessed large collections of Canadian, foreign, and ancient pieces as well. The listing is based upon the card files and inventory ledgers maintained in later years by the Honorable and Mrs. R. Henry Norweb, which record purchase dates, prices, and vendors; and various priced and annotated auction catalogues of sales in which Albert Holden participated through agents. No correspondence to or from Holden concerning his coin collection has been preserved, so far as the authors are aware.

Every attempt has been made to verify the accuracy of this reconstruction. A number of errors were detected in the card files and corrected, but it is likely that other errors were not detected.

Albert and Liberty Holden owned an impressive collection of Washington medals and coins, as well as early American medals listed by C. Wyllys Betts. These have not been listed here as they are not part of the collection consigned to Auctions by Bowers and Merena, Inc. for auction.

Some obvious gaps can be seen in the reconstructed inventory, such as the small number of silver dollars and double eagles. Denomination or type series missing, or seemingly underrepresented, should not suggest Holden's lack of interest but, rather, the loss of his original records.

Colonial Coins

Description/Date	Variety	Date of purchase	Vendor/Sale	Price paid
New England shilling	Noe-III-C	December 17, 1907	Thomas Elder	$ 52.50
Willow Tree shilling	--	Feb. 2, 1912	Thomas Elder	31.00
Willow Tree shilling	N 3-C	Oct. 21-22, 1910	Lambert Sale	30.00
Oak Tree shilling	N-9	Oct. 21-22, 1910	Lambert Sale	3.75
Oak Tree shilling	N-11	November 22, 1909	David Proskey	7.00
Oak Tree shilling	N-12	September 9, 1910	Henry Chapman	12.00
Oak Tree shilling	N-13	June 3, 1909	Henry Chapman	36.30
Oak Tree twopence	N-31	January 3, 1909	Henry Chapman	10.00
Pine Tree shilling	N-5	November 23, 1908	Henry Chapman	--
Pine Tree shilling	N-10	December 4, 1909	Kendrick	10.00
Pine Tree shilling	N-11	September 5, 1908	Lyman Low	2.40
Pine Tree shilling	N-18	June 3, 1909	Henry Chapman	7.70
Pine Tree shilling	N-30	December 2, 1909	Kendrick	6.00
Baltimore shilling	no colon after MARIAE	June 29, 1911	Henry Chapman	263.00
Baltimore sixpence	small bust, no period	October 27, 1908	David Proskey	18.00
Newby farthing	--	October 28, 1908	David Proskey	--
1787 Massachusetts half cent	R 4-C	April 14, 1909	Thomas Elder	1.40
1723 Rosa Americana penny	--	December 18, 1908	Henry Chapman	
1723 Rosa Americana halfpenny	--	December 4, 1909	Scott S & C	1.00
Pattern Rosa Sine Spina	--	1908	Henry Chapman	150.00
Wood's 1722 halfpenny	rocks on right	November 8, 1910	Thomas Elder	51.00
Wood's 1722 halfpenny	harp on left	November 8, 1910	Thomas Elder	1.20

Wood's 1722 halfpenny	--	January 10, 1910	Thomas Elder	2.00
1723 Wood's halfpenny	--	1908	Henry Chapman	--
1723 Wood's halfpenny	--	1910	Thomas Elder	3.00
1723 Wood's halfpenny	--	1908	Henry Chapman	--
1723 Wood's halfpenny	--	1909	Henry Chapman	--
1724 Wood's halfpenny	--	November 8, 1910	Thomas Elder	1.00
1724 Wood's halfpenny	--	May 3, 1909	Zabriskie Sale	--
1723 Wood's farthing	--	1910	Thomas Elder	--
1723 Wood's farthing	--	1908	Henry Chapman	--
1723 Wood's farthing	--	1910	Thomas Elder	--
1723 Wood's farthing	--	1910	Thomas Elder	--
1737 Higley. Value Me As You Please/I Am Good Copper	3 hammers	May 3, 1909	Zabriskie Sale	23.50
1739 Higley. I Cut My Way Through	broad axe	May 3, 1909	Zabriskie Sale	15.50
Kentucky token	payable in Lancaster London or Bristol	November 6, 1909	William Hesslein	1.00
1783 Chalmers shilling	short worm	May 3, 1909	Zabriskie Sale	4.40
1783 Chalmers sixpence	--	May 3, 1909	Zabriskie Sale	16.00
1790 Standish Barry threepence	--	November 6, 1909	William Hesslein	2.00
Immunis Columbia/New Jersey	Maris 3-C	May 3, 1909	Zabriskie Sale	148.50
1786 New Jersey	M 18-J	November 18, 1910	Thomas Elder	3.15
1786 New Jersey	M 21-N	--	Thomas Elder	--
1786 New Jersey	M 21-O	November 18, 1910	Thomas Elder	--
1787 New Jersey	M 46-e	November 18, 1910	Elmer Sears	2.35
1787 New Jersey	M 56-n	December 4, 1909	Thomas Elder	--
1787 New Jersey	M 59-o	November 18, 1910	Thomas Elder	--
1787 New Jersey	M 62-q	November 20, 1908	Alexander	--
1786 New York	Non Vi Virtute Vici	September 3, 1910	Mougey Sale	278.35
1787 New York Excelsior	eagle right	May 3, 1909	Zabriskie Sale	123.20
1787 New York/Immunis Columbia	--	June 25, 1907	Stickney Sale	45.00
1795 T.A.L. cent	without New York	May 14, 1908	Thomas Elder	--
1796 Castorland	copper re-strike	November 6, 1909	William Hesslein	1.35
1778-79 Rhode Island token	brass	October 27, 1908	Scott S & C	2.00
1785 Confederatio copper	small circle of stars	June 25, 1907	Stickney Sale	350.00
Bar cent	--	October 27, 1908	David Proskey	5.75
1785 Vermont	Ryder-4	December 11, 1909	B. Max Mehl	1.50
1786 Vermont	R-6	December 4, 1909	David Proskey	4.00

Half Cents

Date	Variety	Date of purchase	Vendor/Sale	Price paid
1794	Breen-7, Gilbert-2	November 12, 1909	Thomas Elder	$ 3.50
1794	B-1a, G-9	November 12, 1909	Thomas Elder	3.50
1795	B-1, G-1	November 13, 1909	Henry Chapman	5.50
1800	B-1b, G-1	Oct. 21-22, 1910	Lambert Sale	2.50
1803	B-1, G-2	November 6, 1909	William Hesslein	--
1804	B-10, G-2	November 3, 1909	Ben Green	--
1806	B-3, G-1	October 26, 1908	Scott S & C	--
1806	B-4, G-3	October 26, 1908	Scott S & C	--
1808	B-3, G-2	November 22, 1909	David Proskey	2.00
1809	B-1, G-1	September 5, 1908	Lyman Low	--
1826	B-1, G-1	October 26, 1908	Scott S & C	--
1829	B-1, G-1	November 22, 1908	David Proskey	--
1831	B-1, G-1, original Proof	October 17, 1908	Thomas Elder	52.50
1832	B-1, G-2	October 23, 1908	Ben Green	--
1833	B-1, G-1, Proof	October 28, 1908	Ben Green	.09
1835	B-2, G-1	September 3, 1910	Mougey Sale	.50
1840	B-1a, G-1, Proof	--	Elmer Sears	80.00
1840	B-2, G-2, restrike Proof	--	Thomas Elder	56.50
1841	B-1, G-1, Proof	December 17, 1908	Thomas Elder	33.00
1842	B-1, G-1, Proof	October 17, 1908	Thomas Elder	78.65
1842	B-3, G-2, restrike Proof	--	Thomas Elder	80.00
1843	B-1, G-1, original Proof	--	Thomas Elder	50.00
1845	B-2, G-2, restrike Proof	October 17, 1908	Thomas Elder	111.50
1847	B-3, G-2, restrike Proof	October 17, 1908	Thomas Elder	44.00

1848	B-2,G-2, restrike Proof	October 17, 1908	Thomas Elder	48.00
1849	B-1a, G-1, restrike Proof	September 6, 1909	--	80.00
1849	B-2, G-2, restrike Proof	October 17, 1908	Thomas Elder	66.00
1851	B-1, G-1	October 28, 1908	Scott S & C	--
1852	B-3, G-2, restrike Proof	October 17, 1908	Thomas Elder	31.50
1853	B-1, G-1	October 20, 1908	Scott S & C	--
1854	B-1, G-1	October 26, 1908	Scott S & C	--
1855	B-1, G-1	July 5, 1908	Low	--
1856	B-2b, G-2	November 22, 1909	David Proskey	10.00
1856	B-2a, G-1, Proof	November 12, 1909	Thomas Elder	--
1857	B-2, G-1, Proof	September 3, 1910	Mougey Sale	2.25

Large Cents

1793	Sheldon-1	Oct. 21-22, 1910	Lambert Sale	25.00
1793	S-1	December 18, 1908	Kuntz Sale	15.00
1793	S-2	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	54.00
1793	S-8	November 20, 1909	Kendrick	15.00
1793	S-10	August 1910	Thomas Elder	4.00
1793	S-11c	December 4, 1909	Scott S & C	3.00
1793	S-13	Oct. 21-22, 1910	Lambert Sale	18.00
1794	S-22	December 4, 1909	Scott S & C	5.00
1794	S-24	November 13, 1908	Henry Chapman	6.00
1794	S-28	December 8, 1908	Henry Chapman	--
1794	S-31	April 5, 1909	William Hesslein	--
1794	S-32	October 1, 1909	Elmer Sears	--
1794	S-42	December 17, 1908	Thomas Elder	--
1794	S-43	May 14, 1909	Thomas Elder	--
1794	S-59	September 5, 1908	Lyman Low	--
1794	S-63	October 1, 1909	Elmer Sears	--
1794	S-65	--	Lyman Low	--
1794	S-69	October 26, 1908	Scott S & C	--
1794	S-70	April 5, 1909	William Hesslein	--
1794	S-71	December 18, 1908	Henry Chapman	--
1794	S-72	August 1908	Thomas Elder	--
1795	S-76a	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	10.75
1795	S-76b	December 18, 1908	Henry Chapman	--
1795	S-78	September 11, 1908	Ben Green	--
1795	S-80	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	4.50
1796	S-	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	9.25
1796	S-83	--	Thomas Elder	--
1796	S-87	December 10, 1909	Thomas Elder	--
1796	S-88	December 4, 1909	Scott S & C	--
1796	S-91	October 26, 1908	Scott S & C	--
1796	S-104	October 20, 1908	Scott S & C	--
1796	S-110	October 26, 1908	Scott S & C	--
1797	S-120b	September 5, 1908	Lyman Low	--
1797	S-125	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	21.25
1797	S-131	December 18, 1908	Henry Chapman	--
1797	S-134	October 26, 1908	Scott S & C	1.00
1798/97	S-152	September 5, 1908	Lyman Low	--
1798	S-164	December 18, 1908	Henry Chapman	1.15
1799/98	S-188	November 2, 1909	David Proskey	25.00
1799	S-189	September 3, 1910	Mougey Sale	86.00
1800/99	S-192	June 5, 1909	Henry Chapman	1.10
1800	S-200	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	10.25
1801	S-218	September 5, 1908	Lyman Low	--
1801	S-220	September 5, 1908	Lyman Low	--
1802	S-225	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	5.00
1802	S-228	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	2.90
1802	S-230	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	2.10
1802	S-232	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	4.00
1802	S-241	December 18, 1909	Henry Chapman	3.85
1803	S-246	September 5, 1908	Lyman Low	--
1803	S-249	October 1, 1909	Elmer Sears	2.00
1803	S-257	December 18, 1908	Henry Chapman	1.10
1804	S-266	October 26, 1908	Scott S & C	--
1804	S-266	October 26, 1908	Scott S & C	5.40
1805	S-267	October 26, 1908	Scott S & C	1.10

1805	S-269	October 26, 1908	Scott S & C	1.10
1807/6	S-273	August 1908	Thomas Elder	--
1808	S-278	September 16, 1909	Kendrick	5.00
1810/9	S-281	Oct. 21-22, 1910	Lambert Sale	1.60
1810	S-284	November 5, 1908	Lyman Low	--
1811	S-287	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	2.50
1812	S-290	October 20, 1908	Scott S & C	--
1813	S-292	November 13, 1908	Henry Chapman	6.75
1816	--	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	1.00
1816	Newcomb-2	October 20, 1908	Stevens	1.50
1817	N-2	August 1908	Thomas Elder	.25
1817	N-14	November 21, 1908	Henry Chapman	2.00
1818	--	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.60
1818	N-6	August 1908	Thomas Elder	--
1818	N-10	October 26, 1908	Scott S & C	.25
1819/18	N-1	September 5, 1908	Lyman Low	.50
1819	N-3	October 23, 1908	Ben Green	--
1819	N-8	October 26, 1908	Scott S & C	1.25
1819	N-9	September 5, 1908	Lyman Low	.60
1820	N-15	September 5, 1908	Lyman Low	2.10
1821	N-2	September 5, 1908	Lyman Low	1.05
1822	N-4	October 20, 1908	Stevens	1.00
1822	N-11	September 5, 1908	Lyman Low	.60
1823	N-2, restrike	September 5, 1908	Lyman Low	1.55
1824/22	N-1	September 22, 1909	David Proskey	5.00
1824	N-2	July 18, 1910	William Hesslein	15.00
1824	N-4	October 18, 1910	William Hesslein	20.00
1825	N-6	July 18, 1910	William Hesslein	5.00
1825	N-7	October 3, 1909	Ben Green	--
1826	N-1	July 18, 1910	William Hesslein	5.00
1826	N-5	July 18, 1910	William Hesslein	6.50
1826	N-7	October 26, 1908	Scott S & C	5.00
1827	N-11	October 26, 1908	Scott S & C	1.10
1828	N-2	November 13, 1908	Henry Chapman	1.25
1828	N-2	October 26, 1908	Scott S & C	5.00
1829	N-8	--	Henry Chapman	--
1830	N-1	October 26, 1908	Scott S & C	.75
1830	N-6	Oct. 21-22, 1910	Lambert Sale	1.10
1831	N-3	October 26, 1908	Scott S & C	.60
1831	N-6	October 20, 1908	Stevens	1.50
1832	N-1	October 26, 1908	Scott S & C	.75
1833	N-1	January 3, 1909	Chapman	2.00
1833	N-6	September 3, 1910	Mougey Sale	4.00
1834	N-1	October 20, 1908	Stevens	1.00
1834	N-2	October 26, 1908	Scott S & C	1.60
1834	N-2½	October 1, 1909	Elmer Sears	2.00
1835	N-3	Oct. 21-22, 1910	Lambert Sale	.65
1836	N-3	October 26, 1908	Scott S & C	1.50
1837	N-6	September 11, 1908	Ben Green	.25
1838	N-2	--	Elmer Sears	--
1838	N-5	October 20, 1908	Stevens	1.50
1838	N-6	--	Elmer Sears	--
1839/6	N-1	--	William Hesslein	15.80
1839	N-2	September 3, 1910	Mougey Sale	3.75
1839	N-4	October 26, 1908	Scott S & C	1.20
1839	N-5	October 26, 1908	Scott S & C	.50
1839	N-8	October 26, 1908	Scott S & C	8.40
1840	N-1a	October 20, 1908	Stevens	8.00
1840	N-2, Proof	--	Thomas Elder	25.00
1840	N-7	October 20, 1908	--	.70
1841	N-1, Proof	September 3, 1910	Mougey Sale	14.50
1841	N-2, Proof	--	Thomas Elder	10.50
1842	N-2	--	Thomas Elder	--
1842	N-4	October 20, 1908	Stevens	1.00
1842	N-6	September 5, 1908	Lyman Low	.85
1843	--	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.60
1843	N-7	October 26, 1908	Scott S & C	.85
1843	N-11, Proof	--	Thomas Elder	30.50
1843	N-13	--	Thomas Elder	9.50
1844	--	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.95
1844	N-2	November 10, 1908	--	.50
1844	N-4, Proof	September 3, 1910	Mougey Sale	26.50

1845	--	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.45
1845	N-4	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.50
1846	N-1	October 20, 1908	Stevens	1.50
1846	N-11	October 1, 1908	Elmer Sears	1.00
1846	N-13	November 22, 1909	David Proskey	3.00
1847	N-4	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.35
1847	N-16		Thomas Elder	8.00
1847	N-30		Thomas Elder	.50
1848	N-19, Proof	September 3, 1910	Mougey Sale	11.50
1849	N-18, Proof	September 3, 1910	Mougey Sale	18.00
1849	N-20	October 26, 1908	Scott S & C	.50
1850	--	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.20
1851	--	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.20
1851	N-2	September 20, 1908	Alexander	--
1852	N-17	September 5, 1908	Lyman Low	.70
1853	N-7	October 26, 1908	Scott S & C	.15
1853	N-20	December 18, 1908	Chapman	1.10
1853	N-25	September 5, 1908	Lyman Low	.55
1854	N-24	September 5, 1908	Lyman Low	.30
1855	--	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	1.05
1855	N-3	October 26, 1908	Scott S & C	.30
1855	N-10	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	--
1856	N-2	October 26, 1908	Scott S & C	.25
1856	N-5, Proof	Oct. 21-22, 1910	Lambert Sale	6.50
1857	N-1, Proof	September 3, 1910	Mougey Sale	8.00

Small Cents

Date	Type	Date of purchase	Vendor/Sale	Price paid
1856	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	$ 17.25
1857	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.02
1858	Proof	October 5, 1910	Thomas Elder	.25
1860	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.02
1863	Proof	--	David Proskey	.35
1863	--	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.02
1866	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.02
1868	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.03
1870	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.03
1871	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.03
1879	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.01
1880	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.01
1885	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.01
1886	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.01
1887	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.01
1888	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.01
1889	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.01
1909	Proof	September 24, 1910	William Hesslein	1.75
1909-S Indian	--	1910	Mint	--
1909-S Lincoln	--	1910	Mint	--
1911	Proof	1911	Mint	--

Two-Cent Pieces

1864	Proof		David Proskey	2.00
1866	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.04
1867	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.04
1868	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.06
1870	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.06
1871	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.06

Silver Three-Cent Pieces

1851	Proof	--	--	--
1851	--	--	Thomas Elder	.17
1851-O	--	October 27, 1908	Scott S & C	.08
1852	--	October 26, 1908	Scott S & C	.11
1853	--	October 26, 1908	Scott S & C	.11
1854	--	October 26, 1908	Scott S & C	.11
1855	--	October 26, 1908	Scott S & C	.65
1856	--	October 26, 1908	Scott S & C	.11
1858	Proof	--	Thomas Elder	.78
1860	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.09
1863	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.09
1866	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.09
1867	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.09
1868	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.09
1870	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.09
1871	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.09

Nickel Three-Cent Pieces

1866	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.09
1867	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.09
1868	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.09
1870	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.09
1871	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.09
1879	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.03
1880	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.03
1885	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.03
1886	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.03
1887/6	Proof	November 3, 1909	Ben Green	1.25
1887	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.03
1888	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.03
1889	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.03

Half Dimes

1837	--	November 6, 1909	William Hesslein	--
1845	--	--	Lyman Low	--
1848	--	--	--	.53
1848	--	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	--
1849	--	September 5, 1908	Lyman Low	--
1850	--	October 26, 1908	Scott S & C	
1851	--	--	Thomas Elder	--
1851-O	--	October 1, 1909	Ben Green	--
1860-O	--	October 27, 1908	Scott S & C	--

Dimes

1797	16 stars	November 1909	William Hesslein	6.00
1798/7	--	October 1909	Elmer Sears	11.00
1807	--	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	2.20
1824	--	November 1909	William Hesslein	.50
1825	--	--	William Hesslein	.35
1829	--	Oct. 21-22, 1910	Lambert Sale	.20
1829	Proof	April 1909	William Hesslein	.35
1831	--	October 1908	Scott S & C	--
1832	--	October 1908	Scott S & C	.29
1834	Small 4, Proof	January 1908	Ben Green	--
1836	--	October 1908	Ben Green	--
1837	--	October 1908	Scott S & C	.25
1837	Liberty Seated	October 1908	Thomas Elder	.25
1838	--	October 1908	Scott S & C	--
1839	--	December 1909	Thomas Elder	--

1840	With Drapery	October 1909	Ben Green	--
1840-O	--	October 1908	Scott S & C	--
1841-O	--	October 1908	Scott S & C	--
1842-O	--	October 1908	Scott S & C	--
1843	Proof	--	Thomas Elder	11.00
1845	--	--	Thomas Elder	.45
1845-O	--	November 1909	William Hesslein	--
1847	--	--	Thomas Elder	1.90
1849	Proof	--	Thomas Elder	2.20
1851	--	October 1908	Scott S & C	--
1852	--	January 1908	Lyman Low	--
1853	--	October 1908	Scott S & C	--
1855	--	October 1908	Scott S & C	--
1856	--	April 1909	William Hesslein	--
1857-O	--	October 1908	Scott S & C	.18
1858	Proof	--	Thomas Elder	2.60
1859-O	--	October 1908	Scott S & C	.18
1860	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	--
1863	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	--
1866	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.20
1867	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	--
1868	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	--
1869-S	--	November 1908	Lyman Low	.18
1870	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	--
1871	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	--
1876-S	--	November 1908	Lyman Low	.18
1879	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.10
1880	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	--
1885	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	--
1886	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	--
1887	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	--
1888	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	--
1889	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	--
1893-O	--	November 1908	Scott S & C	.15
1894-O	--	October 1908	Scott S & C	.15
1895-O	--	October 1908	Scott S & C	.15
1896-S	--	October 1908	Scott S & C	.25
1897-O	--	October 1908	Scott S & C	.15
1897-S	--	October 1908	Scott S & C	.25
1898-O	--	October 27, 1908	Scott S & C	.15
1898-S	--	October 27, 1908	Scott S & C	.25
1899-O	--	October 27, 1908	Scott S & C	.15
1899-S	--	--	Thomas Elder	--
1900-O	--	October 27, 1908	Scott S & C	.15
1908-D	--	1908	Mint	--
1908-O	--	1908	Mint	--
1909-O	--	1909	Mint	--
1909-S	--	1909	Mint	--
1911	Proof	1911	Mint	--

Twenty-Cent Pieces

1875-S	--	December 17, 1908	Thomas Elder	--

Quarter Dollars

1807	--	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	3.50
1815	--	September 5, 1908	Lyman Low	.90
1818	--	September 5, 1908	Lyman Low	--
1818/5	--	October 26, 1908	Scott S & C	--
1820	--	October 26, 1908	Scott S & C	--
1825/3	--	September 5, 1908	Lyman Low	--
1825/4	--	October 26, 1908	Scott S & C	--
1828	--	September 5, 1908	Lyman Low	--
1832	--	September 5, 1908	Thomas Elder	--
1833	--	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.95

1834	--	October 26, 1908	Scott S & C	.35
1835	--	November 14, 1908	Lyman Low	--
1836	--	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	--
1838	--	October 26, 1908	Scott S & C	.55
1841-O	--	October 27, 1908	Scott S & C	.35
1842	--	October 26, 1908	Scott S & C	.40
1845	--	--	Thomas Elder	1.10
1847	Proof	--	Thomas Elder	2.00
1848	--	November 22, 1909	David Proskey	4.00
1849	Proof	--	Thomas Elder	4.50
1851	--	--	Thomas Elder	1.41
1851-O	--	May 14, 1909	Thomas Elder	1.05
1853	Arrows and Rays	--	Thomas Elder	3.00
1854	--	October 25, 1908	Scott S & C	.35
1855	--	October 26, 1908	Scott S & C	.40
1856	Proof	October 23, 1908	Ben Green	1.75
1858	Proof	--	Thomas Elder	6.50
1858-O	--	October 27, 1908	Scott S & C	.60
1860	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.50
1861	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.75
1863	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.50
1864	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	1.00
1864-S	--	September 3, 1910	Mougey Sale	1.05
1866	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.50
1867	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.50
1868	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.75
1869	Proof	December 6, 1909	--	.55
1870	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.75
1871	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.75
1876-CC	--	May 11, 1909	Lyman Low	.49
1876-S	--	October 27, 1908	Scott S & C	.45
1877-S	--	May 10, 1909	Lyman Low	--
1879	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.25
1880	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.25
1881	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.30
1884	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.31
1885	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.25
1886	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.25
1887	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.28
1888	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.25
1889	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.25
1892-O	--	October 27, 1908	Scott S & C	.60
1894-S	--	April 5, 1909	William Hesslein	.35
1895-O	--	September 3, 1910	Mougey Sale	.37
1895-S	--	April 5, 1909	William Hesslein	.35
1896	Proof	--	--	.50
1896-O	--	September 3, 1910	Mougey Sale	.37
1897	Proof	--	--	.26
1897-O	--	September 3, 1910	Mougey Sale	.37
1899-O	--	--	--	.60
1899-S	--	--	Thomas Elder	.50
1906-O	--	--	Thomas Elder	.35
1907-O	--	--	Thomas Elder	.35
1908-O	--	1908	Mint	.25
1909-D	--	1909	Mint	.25
1909-S	--	1909	Mint	.25
1909-S	--	1909	Mint	.25
1910	Proof	1910	Mint	.50
1911	Proof	1911	Mint	.50

Half Dollars

1795	--	October 8, 1909	Thomas Elder	--
1795	--	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	1.55
1797	--	--	Alexander	15.00
1803	--	September 5, 1908	Lyman Low	--
1805/4	--	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	2.05
1806/5	--	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	1.85
1806	--	October 26, 1908	Scott S & C	--

1810	--	September 5, 1908	Lyman Low	1.10
1811	--	April 5, 1909	William Hesslein	.95
1814	--	September 5, 1908	Lyman Low	--
1818	--	--	Thomas Elder	--
1827	--	November 1909	Elmer Sears	--
1829	--	September 5, 1908	Lyman Low	--
1829	--	Oct. 21-22, 1910	Lambert Sale	1.50
1836	--	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	1.85
1838-O	--	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	570.00
1839-O	--	August 1908	Alexander	--
1840-O	--	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.65
1841	--	October 26, 1908	Scott S & C	.70
1842	--	September 10, 1908	Lyman Low	.75
1842-O	--	November 12, 1909	Thomas Elder	.85
1843-O	--	October 27, 1908	Scott S & C	.60
1846	--	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.85
1846	--	July 18, 1910	Ben Green	--
1846-O	--	November 13, 1908	Henry Henry Chapman	.85
1846-O	--	April 5, 1909	William Hesslein	.70
1847	Proof	--	Thomas Elder	--
1848-O	--	October 26, 1908	Scott S & C	.60
1849-O	--	November 12, 1909	Thomas Elder	.85
1855	--	Oct. 21-22, 1910	Lambert Sale	3..75
1856	--	Oct. 21-22, 1910	Lambert Sale	4.25
1856-O	--	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.90
1858	Proof	--	Thomas Elder	13.00
1860	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	--
1863	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	--
1865-S	--	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.75
1865-S	--	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.60
1866	With Motto, Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	--
1867	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	--
1868	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	--
1870	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	--
1871	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	1.50
1871-S	--	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.70
1873	With Arrows	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	.55
1879	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	--
1880	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	--
1885	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	--
1886	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	--
1887	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	--
1888	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	--
1889	Proof	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	--

Silver Dollars

(Very incomplete inventory records survive)

1794	--	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	180.00
1795	--	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	5.00
1795	--	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	3.50
1796	--	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	4.00
1798	13 Stars	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	4.50
1798	15 Stars	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	4.75
1799/8	--	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	4.00
1799	--	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	2.25
1799	--	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	2.90
1850	--	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	2.50
1854	--	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	7.50
1857	--	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	3.00

Trade Dollars

1873-CC	--	November 8, 1908	Henry Chapman	1.25
1873-S	--	May 10, 1909	Lyman Low	.85
1874-CC	--	November 20, 1908	Henry Chapman	1.25
1874-S	--	April 5, 1909	William Hesslein	1.45

1875-CC	--	November 10, 1908	Henry Chapman	1.25
1875-S	--	November 10, 1908	Henry Chapman	1.25
1876-CC	--	1909	William Hesslein	2.00
1876-S	--	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	1.05
1877-CC	--	November 12, 1909	Elmer Sears	2.25
1877-S	--	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	1.05
1878-S	--	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	1.15
1881	Proof	--	--	1.50

Gold Dollars

1849	--	--	--	7.50
1849-C	--	--	--	3.00
1849-O	--	--	--	1.50
1850	--	--	--	6.50
1850-C	--	--	--	6.00
1850-D	--	--	--	5.00
1850-O	--	--	--	1.50
1851	--	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	8.50
1851-C	--	--	--	1.75
1851-O	--	--	--	12.00
1852	--	--	--	2.25
1852-D	--	--	--	17.50
1852-O	--	--	--	2.50
1853	--	--	--	2.50
1853-C	--	--	--	2.25
1853-D	--	--	--	12.00
1853-O	--	--	Scott S & C	2.30
1854	--	--	--	2.59
1854	--	--	--	2.25
1854-S	--	--	Henry Chapman	--
1855	--	--	--	2.25
1855-C	--	--	--	2.70
1855-D	--	Oct. 21-22, 1910	Lambert Sale	57.50
1855-O	--	--	--	2.35
1856	--	--	--	2.25
1856	--	--	--	3.50
1856-D	--	Oct. 21-22, 1910	Lambert Sale	80.00
1856-S	--	--	Scott S & C	3.00
1857	--	--	--	2.25
1857-C	--	--	Scott S & C	4.10
1857-D	--	Oct. 21-22, 1910	Lambert Sale	18.00
1857-S	--	--	Scott S & C	3.50
1858	--	--	Scott S & C	3.00
1858-D	--	--	Scott S & C	3.40
1858-S	--	--	Scott S & C	2.85
1858-S	--	--	--	15.00
1859-C	--	November 25, 1908	Ben Green	6.50
1860-D	--	October 8, 1909	Thomas Elder	57.75
1860-S	--	--	--	15.00
1861	--	--	--	2.25
1861-D	--	1908	Thomas Elder	115.00
1862	--	--	--	2.25
1866	--	October 22, 1909	Henry Chapman	21.00
1868	--	--	Scott S & C	4.00
1869	--	October 22, 1909	Henry Chapman	14.70
1870	--	--	--	--
1871	--	--	Scott S & C	6.60
1873	--	--	--	2.15
1874	--	--	--	2.15
1874	--	--	--	2.10
1875	--	--	--	100.00
1876	--	--	Scott S & C	4.10
1877	--	--	Scott S & C	4.20
1878	--	--	Scott S & C	4.20
1879	--	--	--	5.50
1880	--	--	--	8.10
1881	--	--	Scott S & C	2.35

1882	--	November 13, 1908	Henry Chapman	3.50
1883	--	--	--	2.35
1884	--	--	--	3.15
1885	--	November 12, 1909	Thomas Elder	3.75
1886	--	--	--	2.25
1887	--	--	--	2.25
1888	--	--	--	2.25
1889	--	--	--	2.25

Quarter Eagles

1802	--	November 10, 1908	Henry Chapman	$ 5.00
1804	--	May 14,1909	Thomas Elder	55.50
1834	--	October 8,1909	Thomas Elder	3.40
1835	--	October 8, 1909	Thomas Elder	5.50
1836	--	May 14, 1909	Thomas Elder	2.00
1837	--	September 3, 1910	Mougey Sale	2.75
1838	--	November 6, 1909	William Hesslein	4.85
1838	--	November 12, 1909	Thomas Elder	3.00
1838-C	--	November 6, 1909	--	7.60
1838-C	--	November 12, 1909	Thomas Elder	6.50
1839-C	--	November 12, 1909	Thomas Elder	3.00
1839-D	--	November 12, 1909	Thomas Elder	3.25
1839-O	--	November 6, 1909	William Hesslein	5.35
1840-O	--	September 11, 1909	Kendrick	--
1842-O	--	October 8, 1909	Thomas Elder	4.25
1843-C	--	November 12, 1909	Thomas Elder	3.25
1843-D	--	November 3, 1909	Ben Green	5.00
1843-O	--	October 8, 1909	Thomas Elder	2.90
1844-D	--	November 12, 1909	Thomas Elder	3.25
1845	--	November 12, 1909	Thomas Elder	3.00
1845-D	--	September 16, 1909	Kendrick	--
1847-C	--	September 16, 1909	Kendrick	--
1848-D	--	November 12, 1909	Thomas Elder	6.10
1849-C	--	October 1, 1909	Ben Green	7.80
1851	--	September 3, 1910	Mougey Sale	2.60
1852-C	--	November 12, 1909	Thomas Elder	8.00
1852-O	--	October 8, 1909	Thomas Elder	8.00
1857-O	--	October 12, 1909	Thomas Elder	3.25
1876	--	November 12, 1909	Thomas Elder	--
1878	--	November 3, 1909	Ben Green	2.75
1878-S	--	November 12, 1909	Thomas Elder	--

Three-Dollar Gold Pieces

1854	--	--	Lyman Low	4.50
1854-D	--	November 10, 1908	Henry Chapman	25.00
1854-O	--	--	Scott S & C	3.75
1855	--	August 1908	Lyman Low	4.50
1855-S	--	--	Scott S & C	3.75
1856	--	--	Scott S & C	3.75
1856-S	--	September 9, 1910	ANA Convention Sale	6.10
1857-S	--	--	--	5.10
1858	--	--	Scott S & C	7.00
1859	--	--	--	4.35
1860-S	--	--	Scott S & C	3.85
1861	--	--	Scott S & C	4.10
1862	--	--	Scott S & C	4.00
1863	--	--	Scott S & C	4.10
1864	--	--	Scott S & C	4.80
1865	--	--	Elmer Sears	3.00
1866	--	--	--	4.40
1867	--	--	Scott S & C	5.10
1868	--	--	--	4.40
1869	--	--	Scott S & C	5.20

1870	--	--	--	4.50
1872	--	May 14, 1909	Thomas Elder	7.75
1874	--	--	--	4.50
1878	--	--	Kendrick	4.50
1879	--	--	Scott S & C	4.60
1881	--	--	Scott S & C	5.10
1882	Proof	--	Scott S & C	4.00
1883	Proof	--	Scott S & C	4.10
1884	--	--	Scott S & C	4.10
1886	Proof	--	Scott S & C	4.50
1887	--	--	Scott S & C	4.10

Half Eagles

1798	--	September 16, 1909	Kendrick	---
1800	--	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	7.35
1802/1	--	September 16, 1909	Kendrick	---
1804	--	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	6.90
1805	--	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	6.90
1806	--	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	7.00
1806	--	September 16, 1909	Kendrick	---
1807	--	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	6.60
1808/07	--	September 16, 1909	Kendrick	--
1808	--	November 10, 1908	Henry Chapman	--
1809	--	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	6.60
1825	Proof	October 22, 1909	Zug Sale	--
1830	--	November 22, 1909	Henry Chapman	--
1834	--	October 1, 1907	Elmer Sears	--
1839	--	November 12, 1909	Thomas Elder	6.00
1840	--	November 6, 1909	William Hesslein	--
1840-C	--	September 3, 1910	Mougey Sale	5.25
1841-C	--	November 21, 1909	Thomas Elder	6.00
1841-D	--	--	Scott S & C	5.60
1843-D	--	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	5.60
1844-D	--	September 3, 1910	Mougey Sale	5.25
1846	--	--	Elmer Sears	6.00
1846-O	--	November 6, 1909	William Hesslein	--
1847	--	September 3, 1910	Mougey Sale	5.25
1847-D	--	November 3, 1909	Ben Green	5.75
1848	--	September 3, 1910	Mougey Sale	5.25
1848-D	--	--	Scott S & C	5.50
1849-D	--	September 3, 1910	Mougey Sale	5.25
1852-C	--	September 3, 1910	Mougey Sale	5.25
1852-D	--	--	Thomas Elder	9.25
1855-C	--	November 6, 1909	William Hesslein	5.85
1857-C	--	December 12, 1909	Thomas Elder	--
1857-D	--	September 3, 1910	Mougey Sale	5.25
1858-S	--	September 3, 1910	Mougey Sale	5.25
1860-C	--	--	Elmer Sears	7.50
1871	--	November 12, 1909	Thomas Elder	8.50
1901-S	--	1901	Mint	--
1907	--	--	--	6.40

Eagles

(Very incomplete inventory records survive)

1801	--	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	13.25
1839	--	November 12, 1909	Thomas Elder	12.25
1841	--	October 1, 1909	Elmer Sears	14.25
1854-O	--	--	Scott S & C	11.00
1861	--	September 3, 1910	Mougey Sale	10.25
1868	--	September 3, 1910	Mougey Sale	10.25
1908	Proof	1908	Mint	--
1909-S	--	1909	Mint	--
1909-D	--	1909	Mint	--

Double Eagles

(Very incomplete inventory records survive)

1907	Extremely high relief	--	Family of Augustus Saint-Gaudens	gift
1907	Arabic Numerals	November 10, 1908	Henry Chapman	21.00
1908	Proof	1908	Mint	--

Commemorative Silver

1893	Isabella quarter	October 31, 1908	Thomas Elder	--

Private and Territorial Gold

(Very incomplete inventory records survive)

1855	Kellogg & Co., $20	October 8, 1909	Thomas Elder	26.50
1860	Clark, Gruber Co. $2½	October 21-22, 1910	Lambert Sale	25.00

California Fractional Gold

(Very incomplete inventory records survive)

1870	25c Round	December 17, 1908	Thomas Elder	--
1871	25c Round	October 1, 1909	Ben Green	--
1872	25c Round	October 8, 1909	Thomas Elder	--
1874	25c Round	October 8, 1909	Thomas Elder	--
1856	50c Octagonal	October 8, 1909	Thomas Elder	--
1874	50c Octagonal	October 8, 1909	Thomas Elder	--
1880	50c Octagonal	October 8, 1909	Thomas Elder	--
1869	50c Round	September 10, 1909	Lyman Low	--
1873	50c Round	September 16, 1909	Kendrick	--
1853	$1 Octagonal	September 16, 1909	Kendrick	--
1853	$1 Octagonal	September 16, 1909	Kendrick	--
1854	$1 Octagonal	October 1, 1909	Ben Green	--

Minor and Silver Proof Sets

1840	--	--	--	--
1841	--	--	--	--
1842	--	--	--	--
1843	--	--	--	--
1846	--	--	--	--
1847	--	--	--	--
1848	--	--	--	--
1849	--	--	--	--
1851	--	--	--	--
1855	--	--	--	--
1856	--	--	--	--
1857	--	--	--	--
1860	7 pieces	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	4.70
1863	7 pieces	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	5.00
1866	10 pieces	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	3.40
1867	10 pieces	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	4.30
1868	10 pieces	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	4.40
1870	10 pieces	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	4.00
1871	10 pieces	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	4.00
1873	7 pieces	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	3.30
1879	7 pieces	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	2.00
1880	8 pieces	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	3.35
1881	7 pieces	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	2.05
1884	7 pieces	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	2.10
1885	7 pieces	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	2.10

1886	7 pieces	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	2.10
1887	7 pieces	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	2.05
1888	7 pieces	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	2.05
1889	7 pieces	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	2.00
1895	6 pieces	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	4.50
1896	6 pieces	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	2.10
1897	6 pieces	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	2.05
1903	6 pieces	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	2.05
1911	5 pieces	--	Mint	--

Patterns

(Very incomplete inventory records survive)

1836	Gobrecht dollar, name on base	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	10.00
1836	Gobrecht dollar, name in field.	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	104.00
1838	Gobrecht dollar	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	190.00
1839	Gobrecht dollar	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	51.00
1859	Half dollar set, 4 pcs.	Oct. 21-22, 1910	Lambert Sale	3.25
1873	Trade dollar set, 6 pcs.	October 5, 1908	Wilson Sale	18.00

APPENDIX II

Norweb Correspondence

The correspondence between Hon. R. Henry Norweb and coin dealers of the 1950s provides an interesting insight into numismatics of the era. Although nearly all of the surviving correspondence was generated by R. Henry Norweb, the transactions often involved coins selected or desired by Emery May Holden Norweb and other members of the Norweb family. In some letters, R. Henry Norweb is addressed as Harry, his nickname.

The correspondence files are incomplete and are for just a few years. It is often the case that a file copy exists of an inquiry, but the reply has not been preserved. In other instances the reply exists but the inquiry does not.

The correspondence has been lightly edited to reflect modern usage (such as the capitalization of coin grades) and grammar. An effort has been made to select *interesting* items from a large body of correspondence consisting primarily of invoices and receipts.

Unfortunately, the surviving correspondence files represent only a tiny fraction of the letters, invoices, and other documents which members of the Holden and Norweb families sent or received over a long period of years, beginning in the late 19th century and continuing to relatively modern times.

American Numismatic Association

In the 1950s, Lewis M. Reagan was general secretary of the American Numismatic Association. In the years before the headquarters building was erected in Colorado Springs, the center of the ANA's activities was literally Reagan himself, who carried data with him in a briefcase when he visited conventions.

The correspondence reproduced here has to do with one of the releases of the Treasury Department of earlier-dated Morgan silver dollars, a situation which occurred regularly around the Christmas season, as banks requested dollars from the Federal Reserve in response to demand for them as Christmas gifts. Occasionally, date and mintmark varieties previously considered rare would be released.

December 27, 1954

Dear Mr. Reagan:

With reference to the recent publicity of the so-called "inadvertent" release of the 1880-1890 series of silver dollars, I am going to add my voice to the many inquiries you are undoubtedly receiving as to whether there are any regularly published figures showing, of the coins minted, how many are being held in reserve. To my knowledge this is not the first time coin collectors have had this sort of unsettling experience. In any event it would appear to be a situation in which the American Numismatic Association might be of some help in digging up the facts.

Yours sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

January 3, 1955

Dear Mr. Norweb:

I am obliged to you for the comments on the recent release of silver dollars and the newspaper clippings pertaining to this matter. This has, of course, been a concern to the numismatists and will result in substantial financial loss to those who have had previous stocks of those date, purchased at prevailing prices at the time.

Mint officials and bank officials state that there are no records of the number of coins of any particular date that are being held or which have been released. Bags are not marked as to date, and those released were not examined or tabulated as to date.

There is some evidence that those recently released included coins from several mints, and were not all of Philadelphia issue. There have been previous releases of a similar nature, not attracting as much publicity, but with a consequent drop in catalogue value of the coins involved.

This recent release has caused so much comment that it is possible that those still in storage will be examined and the number of each date reported. It would appear, however, that the Mint officials do not feel any special responsibility for the welfare of collectors and are not restrained, because of numismatic considerations, from releasing coins in storage when needed for commercial purposes. I don't know that we have a legitimate complaint, for the coins were not produced primarily for our benefit.

With kind regards,
Lewis M. Reagan

January 5, 1955

Dear Mr. Reagan:

I am indebted to you for your informative letter of the third, even though it confirms my doubts that there is very little par-

AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION
Chartered by Congress
LEWIS M. REAGAN, *General Secretary*
P. O. Box 577
WICHITA 1, KANSAS

Jan 3 1955

Mr R Henry Norweb
9511 Lake Shore Blvd
Cleveland 8, Ohio

Dear Mr Norweb,

I am obliged to you for the comments on the recent release of silver dollars and the newspaper clippings pertaining to this matter.

This has, of course, been of concern to numismatists and will result in substantial financial loss to those who had previous stocks of those dates, purchased at prevailing prices at the time.

Mint officials and bank officials state that there are no records of number of coins of any particular date that are being held or which have been released. Bags are not marked as to date, and those released were not examined or tabulated astto date.

There is some evidence that those recently released included coins from several mints, and were not all of Philadelphia issue. There have been previous releases of a similar nature, not attracting as much publicity, but with a consequent drop in catalog value of the coins involved.

This recent release has caused so much comment that it is possible that those still in storage will be examined and the number of each date reported. It would appear, however, that the Mint officials do not feel any special responsibility for the welfare of collectors and are not restrained, because of numismatic considerations, from releasing coins in storage when needed for commercial purposes. I dont know that we have a legitimate complaint, for the coins were not produced primarily for our benefit.

With kind regards,

Lewis M. Reagan

General Secretary

Letter dated January 3, 1955 from Lewis Reagan, General Secretary of the American Numismatic Association, to Ambassador R. Henry Norweb.

ticular information to be had on this matter.

It would seem however that in view of the recent inventory of the nation's metal reserve ordered by Secretary Humphrey it might be possible to glean from those figures an indication of how much coined United States gold and silver is held in reserve to back up our paper currency, etc. My understanding is that the inventory was broken down into categories showing denominations (values). We can pretty safely assume that the coined silver reserve is mostly in dollars, whereas the coined gold is listed by denominations, that is, quarter eagles through double eagles.

Under the circumstances might not an inquiry at the Treasury be in order? Certainly the Association representing collectors and dealers together would appear to have the best chance of getting this information. Personally, I think there is a good likelihood that we can get this generalized information, which though not as detailed as we would like, would nevertheless help throw some much needed light on the true state of affairs.

Please be assured that the original inquiry was not in the nature of a protest, for there are no grounds for such an approach, but I do feel that it would be in order for us to ask to be given a break-down of the inventory as ordered by the secretary of the Treasury when the new administration took over.

With every good wish for the new year,

Very sincerely yours,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

The following letter pertains to the unusual case of Robert H. Burnie, a Pascagoula, Mississippi coin dealer who prepared a listing of coins for sale, solicited orders and deposits, and then disappeared with the money:

March 27, 1957

Dear Mr. Reagan:

Just in case it has not come to your attention, I hear that Mr. Robert H. Burnie, who fled to Mexico last year after defrauding many collectors, has "pleaded guilty at Tyler, Texas on February 26, 1957 to five counts of an indictment in the Eastern District of Texas, charging mail fraud in this case, and on March 15, 1957 to an indictment in the Western District of Arkansas, charging another offense of mail fraud in this case. He stated that restitution could not be made. He was sentenced on March 15, 1957 to imprisonment for a term of three years."

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

Q. David Bowers

Q. David Bowers, born in 1938, entered numismatics in 1953. By 1954 he was advertising nationally, and by 1955 catalogues were issued. On April 15, 1958, he joined with James F. Ruddy, formerly of the Triple Cities Coin Exchange (Johnson City, New York), to form Empire Coin Company, Inc., a firm which endured, with a brief interruption in 1960, until it merged with Paramount International Coin Corporation in 1965.

In later years he was a founder of Bowers and Ruddy Galleries, then Bowers and Merena Galleries. He served as president of the Professional Numismatists Guild 1977-1979, and as president of the American Numismatic Association 1983-1985. He has written over two dozen books. In 1979-1981 his firm sold the Garrett Collection, which set many records. Numerous other memorable sales were conducted over a long span of years.

His relationship with the Norweb family dates to the mid 1950s. He recalls that he first met Mr. and Mrs. R. Henry Norweb at a coin convention, after which he engaged in a number of transactions with them by mail.

The earliest correspondence in the file is dated December 24, 1956, and involves an order submitted by Honorable R. Henry Norweb:

December 20, 1956

Dear Sir:

Please find enclosed my check for $16 in payment of the 1841-O Uncirculated half dollar as advertised in the current *Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine*.

Very truly yours,
Honorable R. Henry Norweb

The coin was sold earlier, and a routine notice was sent:

December 24, 1956

Dear Mr. Norweb:

Sorry to disappoint you, but the 1841-O half dollar has been sold. I am returning your check herewith.

If you have any additional items in mind, please let me know.

Very truly yours,
Q. David Bowers

In 1957, placing a bid through James F. Ruddy, Q. David Bowers became the owner for $4,750 of the Empire Collection example of the 1894-S dime, auctioned by Stack's in New York City. His purchase created nationwide attention, as the idea of paying $4,750 for a dime captured the fancy of newspaper writers and television producers. Bowers recalls that thousands of letters and post cards were received as a result of the news notices.

One of these notices attracted the attention of Honorable R. Henry Norweb, who then wrote:

January 14, 1958

My Dear Mr. Bowers:

The enclosed clipping would seem to indicate that you were the successful bidder of this piece [the 1894-S dime]—with my wife being the underbidder. I had hoped to get it as a Christmas present for her and naturally was disappointed that it didn't work out that way.

You may have bought this coin for your own collection, but on the chance that it might eventually be for resale, please make a note of our interest in the piece.

Very truly yours,
R. Henry Norweb

The letter was received by Q. David Bowers, apparently after having been misaddressed. Bowers made the offer to sell the coin for $6,000, to which the following reply was received:

February 4, 1958

My Dear Mr. Bowers:

Apparently my letter of January 14th was not sent to your business address.

Before making a commitment on the basis of your offer I would like to know if it would be agreeable to make a payment of one-third at the outset, with the balance over the next five months. This is because our budget is geared to our numismatic fiscal year which begins July 1st—a habit we acquired during so many years with the federal government.

Yes, I well remember our half cent transaction in Philadelphia.

Very sincerely,
R. Henry Norweb

Q. DAVID BOWERS NUMISMATIST

SECOND NATIONAL BANK BUILDING, WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA Telephone VAlley 3-8478

December 24, 1956

Hon. R. Henry Norweb
9511 Lake Shore Blvd.
Cleveland 8, Ohio

Dear Mr. Norweb:

Sorry to disappoint you, but the 1841-O half dollar has been sold. I am returning your check herewith.

If you have any additional items in mind, please let me know.

Very truly yours,

Q. David Bowers

Encl/

Letter from Q. David Bowers, December 24, 1956 to Ambassador Norweb, expressing regrets that an 1841-O half dollar had been sold. Later, Bowers was to sell the Norwebs an 1894-S dime, an 1852 Large Berries half cent, and other pieces.

An agreement was consummated on the basis proposed by R. Henry Norweb. The coin was sent early in March 1958, and receipt was acknowledged by the following telegram from R. Henry Norweb: "SHIPMENT HAS ARRIVED SAFELY IN GOOD CONDITION. MANY THANKS."

A few months later, Q. David Bowers, who by that time was associated with James F. Ruddy in the newly-formed Empire Coin Company, Inc., Johnson City, New York, offered for sale an example of the rare 1786 New Jersey copper variety with date under the plow beam. The offering price is not recorded, but apparently the Norwebs felt it to be higher than hoped for, for the following letter was sent:

June 9, 1958

Dear Mr. Bowers:

Your coin came in on Saturday and we like it. After checking we feel that $1,750 is nearer a fair price.

Mrs. Norweb hopes you will give this offer favorable consideration. At the same time it will be interesting to know something of the coin's pedigree.

Very sincerely yours,

R. Henry Norweb, Jr.

Correspondence continued on the piece:

June 16, 1958

Dear Sir:

While looking through old issues of *The Numismatist* the other day, I came across an item which should be of interest to you. On the back page of the enclosed August 1916 issue you will find an interesting reference in Henry Chapman's advertisement concerning a 1786 New Jersey cent.

I do not have the Lewis Sale catalogue to which you refer, so I cannot give you particulars concerning it.

Best regards,

Q. David Bowers

Further correspondence was carried on between Q. David Bowers and R. Henry Norweb, with the following letter from Bowers being typical:

July 14, 1958

Dear Sir:

Thank you for your kind note of July 8 [which expressed appreciation for receipt of the 1916 issue of *The Numismatist* and told of a desire to acquire patterns in the Washington series].

I'm glad you liked the 1786 date under plow beam New Jersey cent. As you probably know by this time, we handle some of America's finest coins. In the past several months we have handled practically every silver and copper coin listed in the *Guide Book*. Most of these we have sold privately to collectors like yourself and Mrs. Norweb.

If you have a Want List available, I would appreciate receiving it. Such a list should include colonial coins and patterns as well as the regular United States series, and the conditions desired.

Best personal regards,

Q. David Bowers

Another letter:

August 6, 1958

Dear Sir:

Thank you for calling me this morning about the patterns. I enjoyed our conversation. The seven Washington Head patterns are enclosed. They are: AW-405 $75, AW-541 $65, AW-544 $70, AW-548 $62, AW-549 $75, AW-551 $65, and AW-554 $75. These coins total $485 my cost, plus $24.25 commission added to this, totaling $509.25. If you decide not to keep all of the coins, just add 5% to the coins you retain.

I will be leaving for California on Monday the 11th. If you visit the American Numismatic Association Convention on Saturday, as you said you might, be sure to stop and see me. If you would like me to handle any bids for you at the auction, I will be glad to do so, no charge of course. The Maris reprint [detailing varieties of New Jersey copper coins 1786-1788] has been forwarded under separate cover.

Best personal regards,

Q. David Bowers

The next correspondence occurred nearly a month later:

My Dear David:

On returning I find the Washington Head patterns you sent last month. Unfortunately three of them are already represented in the collection and are being returned herewith. My check for the other four is enclosed.

Mrs. Norweb has asked me to tell you of her appreciation for the Guttag reprint of Maris. As for myself I was sorry in a way not to get to Los Angeles, but just about that time I had a recurrence of some eye trouble which required treatment in New York, with the result that we got nothing at the sale.

Very sincerely yours,

Henry

This elicited the following response:

Dear Sir:

Thank you for your letter and payment for the pattern coins sent previously.

As I mentioned earlier, if you submit a Want List of both colonial and United States coins, it will aid us greatly in locating items for your collection. I am enclosing an item which may be of interest to you and Mrs. Norweb. It is the second known specimen of the Ryder-4-J Massachusetts cent. You will recall that a write-up of this coin appeared in our issue #1 of *Empire Topics*. The coin enclosed was discovered since the original article was written; making it one of two known. The price is $150. Please advise if you can use it as I am offering it to you first.

I read with interest the recent write-up in *Life Magazine* concerning Cleveland's Art Museum and noticed the connection of your name with this organization.

Best personal regards,

Dave

Another letter from Bowers:

November 28, 1958

Dear Sir:

I hope you had a nice hunting trip.

I can supply one Very Fine to Extremely Fine 1837 half dollar, the rare variety with the C in AMERICA resembling an inverted G. This was listed (and illustrated) on page 25 of our *Empire Topics #3*. The price is $85.

Please advise.

Best regards,

Dave

R. Henry Norweb replied:

December 4, 1958

Dear Dave:

Thanks for the advance copy of issue number three of *Empire Topics*. Congratulations on the sustained quality of this publication.

I am just about to leave by plane for New York, and I will not have time to check with my son about the 1827 [half dollar] with the inverted G, but it seems to me that there is something like this already in the collection. Because of this, and since I shall be away for some time I do not want you to hold it for me.

Very sincerely,

Henry

Additional correspondence ensued and involved offers of coins for sale, including:

December 24, 1958

Dear Sir:

I am enclosing two items which may be of interest. The first is a Washington medal, variety Raymond-38, struck for the Centennial Celebration in Philadelphia February 22, 1832. The specimen enclosed is struck in tin. The price is $17.50. The second item is an 1813 half dollar in Extremely Fine condition, the variety was 50C. over UNI (inverted). This is Beistle 1-A, Haseltine-1. The C partly hides the U; the N and I are between the 0 and the C. Evidently the word UNITED was first erroneously started below the claws, then corrected. The price is $47.50.

Best wishes to Mrs. Norweb and yourself for a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Sincerely yours,

Dave

The following reply was received:

Dear Dave:

Mrs. Norweb is keeping the Washington medal for which I am enclosing my check.

I asked my son if he might be interested in the 1813 half dollar, but apparently he is not collecting varieties. Accordingly, this coin is enclosed.

Many thanks for the calendar, and with best wishes for the New Year,

Very sincerely yours,

Henry

The Norweb library was being augmented at this time, and a number of back-dated catalogues, numismatic publications, and periodicals were acquired from Empire Coin Company, with the purchase for $1 on December 15, 1958 of Varieties of the Fugio Cent, by Eric P. Newman, being typical.

The Norwebs read the catalogues and advertisements of the Empire Coin Company with enthusiasm and ordered items frequently. A letter dated March 16, 1959 is typical:

Dear Mr. Bowers:

Thank you for the advance copy of your current listings. It was forwarded to me in Cambridge.

If still available I would like the 1834 Proof half dime, and the 1837 Brilliant Uncirculated, the two 1838 half dimes, the 1853 With Arrows, Uncirculated, as well as the three Proofs of 1867, 1869, and 1870.

Also please put me down as a subscriber to your bound publication.

Very sincerely,

Honorable R. Henry Norweb

P.S.:- I like the idea of including a listing of the prices realized.

In the spring of 1959, Q. David Bowers and James F. Ruddy acquired the Robert P. King Collection of Washington coins, tokens, and medals. Correspondence concerning it included these letters:

April 20, 1959

Dear David:

Mrs. Norweb has asked me to acknowledge your letter of the 14th which came in while I was in Washington. (Fidel Castro was there too.)

We have checked the list and those marked are the only other [Washington pieces] lacking in the collection. Every variety is represented except Raymond-14, which we do not have in any metal.

Your thinking of our interest in the Washington series is very much appreciated, but it is not worth going after [the King Collection] for the half dozen pieces we need.

Returning with this letter is your own reference copy of Raymond's booklet on Washington medals. I need a copy of this book should you ever come across one. Also, we need a Corteau pamphlet on Nova Scotia tokens. There are several revisions of this issue. Any one will do.

Very sincerely,

Henry

June 8, 1959

Dear Dave:

A shipment of coins has come in which Mrs. Norweb tells me is part of the Washington collection. It came sooner than expected, and I do not know when we are going to have the time to get at it. Numismatically speaking, we take off the summer months.

It may be that with a few more details we could make a decision about the entire lot. Will you let me know therefore how many coins approximately are involved and if there are any rarities or if they are run of the mill. Also, what do you want for the entire lot?

With Regards,

Henry

June 11, 1959

Dear Sir:

Thank you for your note acknowledging the receipt of the inventory of the Robert P. King Washington Collection. The collection, as you probably have noticed, consists of all types of medals; mostly 19th-century but including a few of the years since that time. Should the entire collection interest you, the price will be $685. If you decide to retain the collection intact, I will send you Mr. King's file cards for the group, which may be helpful as detailed descriptions are given of every piece.

Please advise me of your decision by return air mail since I will have to notify another person concerning the collection's availability.

Best regards,

Dave

Apparently, only a selection of items from the King Collection were sold, for several days later R. Henry Norweb asks further about the content of the collection:

June 15, 1959

My Dear Dave:

I leave in a few moments for a trip to Bridgeport, New York, and Washington, and would like to see you, perhaps at one of the sales, about your letter of June 11th.

Specifically I would like to know:

1. Approximately how many coins are there in the Washington lot?
2. Are there any rarities?
3. Are they mostly silver, copper, or white metal?
4. If you have an inventory, please bring it with you for me to check;
5. How many store cards and 20th-century items?

R. Henry Norweb

From the summer of 1959:

July 21, 1959

Dear Dave:

My wife joins with me in thanking you for your thought in sending the new edition of the *Guide Book*, as well as the bound copy of your Numismatic Notes *[Empire Topics]*. They will both be valuable references.

Off tomorrow for a month in Maine.

Very sincerely,
Henry

Later correspondence with Q. David Bowers was not preserved by the Norweb family.

Melvin E. Came

Trading as Melvin E. Came & Son, 132 Broadway, Dover, New Hampshire, Melvin Came sold a number of United States and world coins to the Norwebs during the 1950s. Correspondence was minimal. The following represents a transaction of the time:

June 7, 1956

Dear Mr. Came:

Referring to our meeting in Indianapolis [at the Central States Numismatic Convention], I am sorry about the mixup and am still interested in two United States 1956 Proof sets if now available; also, two Canada 1956 Mint sets—the latter carefully selected.

Very Sincerely,
Honorable R. Henry Norweb

July 25, 1956

Dear Mr. Norweb:

I have come across your letter of June 7th requesting two each of the 1956 United States Proof sets; also, two select 1956 Canada Mint sets.

The reason for the delay in my reply is that we have had sickness and recent death in our family and everything has been upset and of course all coin business has been at a standstill.

I have the above mentioned sets at hand for you and can either send them to you right away if you are still interested or can deliver them to you personally at the [ANA] Convention in Chicago, please your wishes?

I also have three bundles with original bands of fractional currency in case you may be interested.

Hoping to hear from you soon, and sorry for the delay.

Sincerely,
M.E. Came

September 7, 1956

Dear Mr. Came:

We missed each other a couple of times at the Chicago Convention, with the result that I never got around to picking up the two lots set aside for me as mentioned in your letter of July 25th. If you are going to the meeting in London, Ontario on the 21st perhaps you could bring them with you then. If not, please forward them to me at the above address.

Very truly yours,
Honorable R. Henry Norweb

Coin Galleries

Doing business at 41 West 57th Street, New York, New York, Coins Galleries, a subsidiary of Stack's, sold the Norwebs a number of world coins during the 1950s. James C. Risk corresponded on a number of occasions. Samples are given herewith:

October 4, 1956

Dear Mr. Ambassador:

Thank you for your call this morning. I have found the coins in question and have directed that they be sent on to you today. The relevant document is attached.

I did not send the 1882 because it would require a more resilient imagination than mine to call it Uncirculated.

With reference to the Military General Service Medal, it might be pointed out that the Indian warrior's name should be impressed on the edge. If there is no name, or if the name has been engraved, it would not be a particularly good specimen to have in your cabinet. In any case, I think I should have a brief look at it.

Sincerely yours,
James C. Risk

October 8, 1958

Dear Jim:

Many thanks for your note about the medal. I expect the coins will come in by tomorrow's mail. Incidentally I think it is wiser to send all material to the home address. . . .

Very sincerely,
Honorable R. Henry Norweb

October 29, 1956

Dear Mr. Ambassador:

The extra and rejected Chilean peso arrived safely this afternoon. I have done my best to console it, but I am afraid that the poor thing will never recover from the disappointment of having almost been in the Norweb Collection. . . .

Sincerely yours,
James C. Risk

Copley Coin Company

Located in an upstairs office at 581 Boylston Street, Boston, the Copley Coin Company was owned by Maurice M. Gould and Frank D. Washburn. The firm's letterhead proclaimed specialties in United States colonial coins, large cents, and half cents.

During the 1950s, Copley handled a number of important holdings, including the Mathewson Collection of large cents. The firm had an excellent reputation and traded primarily with numismatists who had specialized interests.

In later years, the company disbanded, and Maurice M. Gould moved to the West Coast, where he became a well-known lecturer at coin conventions and a regular columnist for *Coin World*. He was also a guiding light of the Numismatic Literary Guild.

The Norweb's made numerous purchases from Copley Coin Company during the 1950s, several of which are chronicled here.

May 29, 1953

Dear Sir:

Very glad to hear from you again. We were swamped with orders on the Canadian coins, however we have three pieces left which we are sending you and enclosing a refund check for the balance. If you care to send me a Want List of Canadian and Newfoundland and state condition wanted, I will be pleased to quote you or send anything on approval.

Kindest regards from Mr. Washburn and myself.

Sincerely yours,
Maurice M. Gould

June 4, 1953

Dear Mr. Gould:

Thank you for your letter enclosing the Canadian coins and naturally it was disappointing that only three were available. The penny and five-cent series are complete, but anything in top condition that is Extremely Fine or Uncirculated in 10, 25, and the 50-cent series would help improve the condition of those we have. Our present purpose is to raise the level of the collection, and I am hopeful that you can be of help in that direction.

Our interest in Canadian coins began many years ago, but the emphasis as you know is almost entirely in tokens. The bulk of the decimal pieces collected when I was a young man were with little regard to condition. In the circumstances almost anything, especially in the 25-cent and 50-cent series that is in Uncirculated condition, would be a welcome addition, and I would welcome your putting my name on your approval list.

The series from 1940 on does not need bettering. In addition please keep me in mind for Newfoundland $2 gold pieces. I have six out of the eight, but only one is in acceptable condition.

With personal regards,

Yours sincerely
Honorable Mr. Henry Norweb

August 19, 1953

Dear Honorable Mr. Norweb:

I feel very badly about being sold out every time you write in. We just have more calls for Canadian and Newfoundland than we have coins. The next time I will have a nice listing I will send you a list before it goes to press.

As a rule if you get your order in for my price list within a day or two after receiving it you should get everything you want as we have everything in stock when the lists are mailed out.

If you ever get to Boston be sure to drop in to see us.

Very truly yours,
Maurice M. Gould

The following letter enclosed a type listing of large cents for sale from the Mathewson Collection, including the following highlights: 1793 Wreath, Sheldon-9, Uncirculated $400; 1793 Wreath, S-11a Extremely Fine $300; 1794 S-43 Uncirculated $90; 1795 S-78 Uncirculated $75; 1798 S-184 Uncirculated $60; 1799 S-189 EF-AU $900; 1801 S-224 Uncirculated $75; 1802 S-228 Uncirculated $75; 1803 S-260 Brilliant Uncirculated $85; 1805 S-269 Brilliant Uncirculated $100; 1806 S-270 Brilliant Uncirculated $255; 1821 Newcomb-1 Uncirculated $75; and numerous other coins, nearly all of which were described as Uncirculated, including many later dates averaging $8 to $15 each.

June 16, 1955

Dear Mr. Norweb:

We recently picked up a famous large cent collection and thought you might be interested in some of the pieces. Enclosed is a listing of them.

The coins are from the Mathewson Collection, of Providence. It is a collection that was accumulated over a period of 70 years. Many of the pieces are the finest known. Mr. Mathewson collected only the choicest coins obtainable. In condition it is without a doubt the finest collection of large cents we have ever seen, and possibly the finest every assembled.

Hoping to hear from you shortly, we are,

Sincerely,
F.D. Washburn

July 11, 1955

Dear Mr. Washburn:

In an earlier letter I promised to let you know of Mrs. Norweb's interest in any items from the large cent list in your letter of June 16th. I am now writing to say that we have practically closed up shop for the summer so far as coin activities are concerned, and any new acquisitions will therefore have to be deferred.

Sincerely yours,
Honorable R. Henry Norweb

C.J. Edgar

In the 1950s, C.J. Edgar, located at 18 Twain Street, Baldwin, New York, offered for sale numismatic books, including many unsold remainders obtained from John J. Ford, Jr. and Wayte Raymond. Scattered invoices and notes, not reproduced here, show that various books, primarily pertaining to world coinage, were acquired by the Norwebs from this source during the time indicated.

Federal Coin Exchange

Operated by Michael Kolman, Jr., the Federal Coin Exchange did business at 5940 Pearl Road, Cleveland, Ohio, with a new branch (opened in 1958) at 37 The Arcade, 401 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland. Surviving correspondence from the era pertains primarily to auction purchases. .

The following letter may indicate that a number of unsold lots, or lots that were not bid on, were offered after the ANA Convention sale to R. Henry Norweb, on an approval basis.

August 21, 1954

Dear Mr. Norweb:

As part of our telephone conversation, we are forwarding to you on approval the following lots from our American Numismatic Association Auction. [Then follows an invoice for Lots 51, 63, 70, 3876, 3877, 3921, 3925, 3926, and 3927, totaling $318.25].

Please feel free to return all or part, I just wanted to let you see a few lots that might be of interest. If possible, I wish you would consider Lot 3876, the Fugio cent. This coin has a pedigree coming from the Hines Collection. Lot 3877 is a very choice specimen of the Washington cent. I truly wish I could relist these two coins as there would have been a great demand for them, but they were lost in the size of the sale.

Cordially,
Michael Kolman, Jr.

Around this time, the United States government decided to put a Nike missile base adjacent to the Norweb home on the shore of Lake Erie, in Bratenahl, a suburb of Cleveland. The situation is mentioned, as is a problem coin, in the following exchange of correspondence:

August 23, 1955

Dear Mike:

I had expected to see you at the Omaha Convention [of the American Numismatic Association] but sudden developments in the Nike site situation next door to us make it urgent to go to Washington instead.

One of the matters on my mind has to do with the 1791 Washington Liverpool halfpenny—Lot 3877 in your Cleveland Convention Sale. When having this piece photographed it appeared on closer examination to be considerably different from the other specimens. It was therefore submitted for expert opinion, and the concensus is that this piece is an electrotype. It is probably the same piece that was sold to Mr. Rice about 1950 or 1951.

Since this lot sold for $90 I am sure you will want to know about this and do whatever is indicated to remedy the error. I am holding the coin at my office pending your return.

Very truly yours,
R. Henry Norweb

September 2, 1955

Dear Mr. Norweb:

Mike just came back from Omaha for a few days and is now en route to Canada by way of Rochester.

He asked me to write you and inform you that if you feel this coin is an electrotype, you may feel free to return it for a full refund. We will have this checked further. At present it is hard to say, but any coin we are ever in doubt about we have thoroughly checked. Regarding the opinion that this is the same piece that was sold to Mr. Rice about 1950 or 1951, this we know is not so, as this collection of coins we had in the sale came from a party who passed away prior to the above dates, and was a very old-time collector (for 20 or 30 years) specializing in colonials.

When Mike returns, he will either pick up the coins, or perhaps it would be better if you would return the coin via registered insured mail with return receipt requested. This will definitely reach us in good hands, and we'll make the necessary refund and give you our second opinion on it.

Warmest regards,
Edna Kolman

A typed, reproduced list of coins dated June 11, 1958, sent to the Norwebs, contained the following notice about grading:

> From this instant and from now on Federal Coin Exchange, Inc. will discontinue the use of the superfluous term "About Uncirculated" or "practically Uncirculated." We will use Extremely Fine Choice which means virtually an Uncirculated coin. Extremely Fine will show only a faint trace of wear and may not have the original lustre.

A later letter deals with double eagles:

September 26, 1958

Dear Mr. Norweb:

Thank you for your request for the $20 gold pieces, but checking through my stock, I must have sold all of the 1879 dates I had.

Regarding the 1875, this was a stenographic error and should have been 1875-CC. I can furnish the Carson City mints if interested. . . .

Cordially,
Michael Kolman, Jr.

A.J. Fink

During the time indicated, A.J. Fink, who often signed his correspondence simply as "Fink", did business from Box 114, Dayton, Ohio, by the medium of mimeographed bulletins offering "bargains galore." Fink's main trade was fireworks, with coins being a sideline. Buyers often found the grade of the coins to be somewhat less than expected. Correspondence from the Norweb files reveal that a number of pieces were ordered from A.J. Fink during the 1950s, but nearly all were returned.

September 10, 1953

Dear Sir:

Enclosed find $20 1881-S Uncirculated $50; $5 1873 Uncirculated $20.

I'm going to get in bad with one of my high-up customers. I quoted him the $1 1850 Proof along with some other coins, and today got a check for $100 for it and another lot. Forgot all about it.

Fink

September 14, 1953

Dear Mr. Fink:

From your last list we would like to see the 1793 half cent in Uncirculated Gem condition [offered for $145], if you can send it on approval.

Yours very truly,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

September 9, 1953

Dear Sir:

Enclosed find two 1793 Uncirculated half cents. You and the Mrs. may decide to want them both, so you are getting a bargain. 1793 half cent Uncirculated $150 [$5 more than in his list] and 1793 half cent Uncirculated $125, total $275, the pair for only $265.

Yours truly,
A.J. Fink

September 12, 1953

Dear Mr. Fink:

Unfortunately I have to return both of the 1793 half cents which you submitted for our approval. We already have the Gilbert-3 in the collection in Extremely Fine condition. The G-1 is being returned since it does not appear to us to be strictly Uncirculated. Certainly the heavy gouge on the cheek does not add to its beauty.

Yours very truly,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

September 18, 1953

Dear Friend:

The return of the 1793 half cents came as a great surprise to me. I sold the 1840-O half dime. The quarter dollars 1796 and 1804 are out to one party at $825—may have a dandy half dollar 1797 if interested—better than 1796.

Yours truly,
A.J. Fink

April 20, 1955

Dear Mr. Fink:

I am returning the 1912 double eagle which you kindly sent on approval, since in the meantime we have found a good example of this coin in a lot that was offered to us only a few days ago. I'm sure you will understand these circumstances, though sorry it happened this way.

Yours very truly,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

April 26, 1955

Dear Sir:

The delay was caused by the fact that I sent my specimens and called up Jim Kelly who supplied me with that specimen—I was not able to see him immediately—but I put up the money for you—and now have it tied up. Just a bit of hard luck, and none too appetizing.

Respectfully,
A.J. Fink

May 3, 1955

Dear Mr. Fink:

I am sorry you have been inconvenienced by the return of the gold coin, but I feel no obligation in the matter, since this transaction, as in the past, was put on "approval basis." Over the long years this is the only way Mrs. Norweb and I have done business.

Yours very truly,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

June 21, 1955

Dear Mr. Fink:

We appreciated your thought in sending us the 1850 Proof dollar, but we are looking for an original and the one submitted seems to be a restrike. We are still hoping some day to find an original, though the search has been going on for many years.

The coin you submitted on approval is enclosed herewith, together with 75 cents in stamps to cover postage.

Yours very truly,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

February 27, 1956

Dear Sir:

Enclosed find two coins that are the finest known—both came from England—I defy you to ever produce their equal. I sent the half dime to the New Netherlands Coin Company, New York City. He offered me somewhat less for the half dime but I did not accept it. They all have a die break and defect on the reverse—a characteristic trait of the coin, and its genuineness which cannot be avoided.

The 1807 dime is a real gem. Cost me $65—over catalogue price. No trouble to sell—only had it 24 hours but want to make a sale so included it. I'll make you the two pieces for only $390. I'll pay you $260 for the half dime any time you want to sell it. You cannot conscientiously turn down this coin if you are sincere. You will only discourage me in sending any more coins on approval. It cost me time, money, and heartaches to do so and out postage. I am sure you understand and will cooperate with my good intentions to please. I can sell elsewhere.

Fink

Charles W. Foster

Known as "The Suitcase Dealer," as he called himself in his price lists, Charles W. Foster did business at 850 East Lake Road, Rushville, New York. A respected dealer of unquestioned integrity, Foster was a familiar figure at Empire State Numismatic Association conventions in Upstate New York for many years.

Invoices in the Norweb files disclose scattered purchases during this period, including such diverse items as an 1847-O half dollar, Uncirculated, for $6 on October 6, 1953, and an 1886 half eagle, Extremely Fine, for $11 on November 5, 1955.

French's

The firm of French's was operated by Charles and Arline French, at 20 State Street, Troy, New York, at which location they ran a hobby shop and toy store, with a specialty in numismatics. French's conducted many coin auctions, including numerous events for the Empire State Numismatic Association conventions. Charles French wrote a monthly column on coins for *Hobbies* magazine and published a book of coin buying prices. His family name was Lehrenkraus, but he adopted the surname French for use in business.

Items in the Norweb files relate to scattered auction prices and occasional transactions, of which the following is typical:

May 20, 1957

Dear Mr. French:

On my return from Washington I found a consignment of coins bid in at your Rochester auction. Your bill has also just come in and my check for $537.35 is enclosed.

Will you please also check on Lot 3141 in which you will remember I expressed an interest, though normally I am not a collector of patterns. However, since I did some of my diplomatic service in Columbia I would like to have them and hope you will fix a price for them.

With regards, yours sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

May 23, 1957

Dear Mr. Norweb:

I inquired of the owner of the Columbian 2½ and five pesos patterns and he informed me that he felt that they should be worth $325. Have not written you as I was not certain you would care to go that high for them. If so, let me know for they are still in my possession.

Cordially yours,
Charles French

May 28, 1957

Dear Mr. French:

Thank you for your letter of May 23, and I share your reservations about the worth of the Columbian patterns. After the sale I enquired of my numismatist contact in Bogota, Columbia, and now have his reply indicating that they are probably worth $175 in Columbia, although with the recent evaluation of the Columbian pesos prices there have become unsettled.

I hope the owner of the coins can get his price for them, but should he wish to reconsider I am always ready to consider a reasonable offer.

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

Robert Friedberg

Robert Friedberg, who managed Gimbel's Coin Department and, later, the Coin and Currency Institute (a manufacturer of coin albums and supplies, and a publisher of reference books), had a number of transactions with the Norwebs. The following letters are from the period. Certain letters were addressed to Richard D. Kenney, who worked for Robert Friedberg and who was a respected numismatist in his own right.

July 9, 1953

Dear Mr. Kenney:

As always, summer plans are subject to change without notice, and so it has been with us. Frequent visits to Washington have altered our arrangements to spend considerable time in New York. Happily also, my mother's condition has not worsened as the doctors had anticipated.

As matters stand now we shall not be spending much time in New York until the months of September and October. Meanwhile however, there is a chance that we shall both get to Dallas for a few days during the [ANA] convention.

Let us hear from you from time to time, keeping in mind our general interests. . . .

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

September 2, 1953

Dear Mr. Norweb:

Under separate cover we are sending you by registered mail a small collection of National Bank Notes of Ohio. Please look these over, and feel free to select whatever you wish, and upon your advice, we shall charge your account for the notes retained. The approval invoice is enclosed with the notes.

Kindest personal regards to Mrs. Norweb, I am

Very sincerely yours,
Robert Friedberg

September 10, 1953

Dear Mr. Friedberg:

The Ohio National Bank Notes, together with a small shipment of Newfoundland silver which I selected have arrived. However, the other Canadian coins that were on your desk have not put in an appearance—hence this letter. Also let me know if you got in your new Canadian material as expected.

We will go over the Ohio notes with the director of the Historical Society. I'm afraid there will be very slim pickings since very few of the selections pertain to the Western Reserve area—the most having been issued in the southern part of the state. At the same time may I remind you of your promise to send me the revised list of your own collection.

Hope you had a good holiday.

Yours sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

September 23, 1953

Dear Mr. Friedberg:

I have the revised list in hand, and now we have spent long hours over it, regret to report that it does not arouse the same enthusiasm as did the original proposition. To have bought the outstanding Friedberg Collection intact is one thing, but to own the remnants is something else. Despite the additions, it has lost much of its original power and we would always hear echoes of "Yes, he bought the Friedberg Collection, but much of the cream had already been skimmed." While of course this would not be completely true, it is close enough to my thinking, to temper our interest.

Aside from the specimens related to the Western Reserve area, I am not a collector of currency. Perhaps I never will be—but for one moment a window opened on new horizons, and I was tempted.

With many thanks for your help and courtesies,

Yours sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

April 11, 1955

Dear Bob:

You will remember that a few weeks ago you sent me some Proof dollars, of which I selected the 1850 example, sending my check for $300. Over the weekend we were going through the Proof early dollar series and found to our disappointment that this specimen, because of hairlines in the field, does not match others in the series. For this reason, though it may seem out of the ordinary, I'm writing to ask if you would be good enough to arrange for the return of this coin for credit to my account with you.

Yours truly,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

The next item in the file mentions the coin department in a Cleveland store managed by Robert Friedberg. At one time he controlled leased coin departments in many different department stores, primarily in the eastern part of the United States:

October 12, 1955

Dear Mr. Norweb:

It was certainly a pleasure visiting with you, I am very grateful that you were able to spend as much time as you did looking through our coins.

In accordance with our plan, we are sending you, under separate cover by registered mail, the various coins you selected. At the same time we are sending a list of these coins to our Cleveland store and are instructing Mr. Geller who is in charge of our coin department there to charge them to your account. . . .

I shall be looking forward to seeing you in Philadelphia. I hope that Mrs. Norweb's cold has left her, and that you will receive only good news from your son.

With kindest personal regards, I am,

Yours very sincerely,
Robert Friedberg

October 17, 1955

Dear Bob:

According to the basis of the arrangement made in New York and confirmed by your letter, I am returning to the Cleveland office a number of the coins selected when in New York.

Unfortunately the number of returns is surprisingly large, but there is an explanation. It seems that all my Canadian collection is underrated. For example, Very Fine should now be marked up to Extremely Fine. As you will note, most of the returned coins are in Extremely Fine condition, so that they offered no chance to improve what was already in the collection. . . .

The time was not all wasted however, for I am keeping some of the more expensive items, particularly in the Latin-American field, and will probably get around to ordering others when I have an opportunity to check the master box. As it is, I am off on a duck hunting expedition and this is the last coin letter I expect to write for some time.

I appreciated the opportunity to see the inner workings of your organization, and was impressed with the length and breadth of your stock.

May 7, 1957

Dear Bob:

If the half dime of 1797 with 15 stars is still available would you please send it to us for inspection?

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

Dear Bob:

As you perhaps know from the correspondence I recently bought through your Cleveland office the 1797 15-star half dime which you advertised. Our example is from the same die but an earlier striking since it shows no die break. It is however only in Fine condition, whereas yours is Uncirculated.

With this background my purpose in writing is to inquire if you would be interested in my example, and if so should it be sent on to you for evaluation and credit.

Very sincerely,
R. Henry Norweb

May 29, 1957

Dear Mr. Norweb:

Thank you for your letter of May 27th, and it was good hearing from you again.

We shall be glad to see your coin, and you may send it to us at your convenience.

Our kindest personal regards.

Very truly yours,
Robert Friedberg

R. Green

The trade name of R. Green was adopted by Charles Green, who did business at 180 West Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois, during the 1950s. His wife Ruth was a partner and did most of the traveling, for Charles was confined to a wheelchair. For a long period of years, the firm of R. Green was one of the most important advertisers in the *Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine*. Most of the items pertaining to R. Green in the Norweb file are invoices, but there are some scattered exchanges of correspondence, excerpted herewith:

August 19, 1953

Dear Sir:

Thank you for your letter received today.

The Greens are away for two weeks as stated in their advertisment in the June and August *Scrapbook Magazine*. They plan to attend the ANA Convention in Dallas and also hope to get a much needed rest.

They left instructions to acknowledge all letters, orders, and packages and to advise the senders that they would be put in the safe and upon return of the Greens they would be given their immediate attention.

Hoping this meets with your approval and thanking you for your indulgence at this time.

Sincerely,
F.M. Smedley
Secretary to R. Green

P.S.: Mr. Green phones this office most every day, if urgent business, leave your number and he will phone you. Thanks.

September 21, 1953

My Dear Mr. Green:

Enclosed is my check for $6.50 in payment of the 1881-O Uncirculated silver dollar as listed of page 978 in the October issue of the *Scrapbook*.

Yours very truly,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

January 25,1954

Dear Mr. Green:

I would like to know if you still have available one of the Hudson Bay Company's five shilling notes illustrated in one of your recent lists.

Also I would be interested in good "Jackass" note to be included in a display we are making up for the Historical Society. We have one note of this kind, but we need another to put upside-down beside it. [The "Jackass" note was so-called because when the eagle was inverted, it appeared to resemble the head of a mule.]

Please let me know as soon as you can, as Mrs. Norweb and I are leaving within 10 days to Cairo [to attend the sale of the Farouk Coin Collection]. We should see a lot of old friends at the sale from all over the world. At least it will be an exciting experience.

Yours very truly,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

January 30, 1954

Dear Sir:

It will be nice to see you in Cairo. We leave on the *Queen Mary* February 10, 1954. Will perhaps fly from Paris to Cairo. Thanks for past favors.

C.E. Green
ANA 4104

April 17, 1954

Dear Mr. Green:

The enclosed $10 note was ordered just before our departure for the Farouk Sale. On checking it since our return I notice there is a bad crease down the center which spoils this specimen for the purposes in mind.

The collection is largely of notes of historical or pictorial interest and is to be circulated around the Cleveland schools by our local Historical Society. Since the idea in adding the specimen to the collection was to show the so-called "jackass" I wonder if in your stock there is another Uncirculated specimen without defects.

Everyone missed you in Cairo.

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

November 22, 1955

Dear Mr. Green:

My son who is out of town has asked me to write to inquire if you would be good enough to send him on approval the 1892-S and 1893-O half dollars (both Uncirculated) listed in the November issue of the *Scrapbook*.

I trust you are sending Mrs. Norweb a copy of your List No. 50 with emphasis on the colonials in which you know she has a special interest.

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

November 29, 1955

Dear Mr. Green:

To my regret I am returning the two half dollars you recently sent on approval. While Uncirculated, they are not up to the high standard of the other half dollars of this series in my collection. I am enlosing $1 in currency to cover your mailing expense.

Very truly yours,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

Mortimer Hammel

Extensive correspondence and business was conducted with Mortimer Hammel, a dealer in world coins at 414 West 44th Street, New York, New York.

June 5, 1956

Dear Mr. Hammel:

Long before this I had hoped to be in New York and see you about our common interest in the Latin-American series. It is another case of "one proposes and circumstances dispose" with the result that of late none of my plans seem to be working out. Even as to next week when I had hoped to spend some time in New York en route to Boston for my 40th anniversary, it now develops that I shall have to be in Washington all that week.

IMPORTER OF
AND
DEALER IN
AMERICAN AND
CANADIAN
COINS
FRACTIONAL
CURRENCY
CAMEOS
HISTORICAL PLATES

Established 1900.

WILLIAM HESSLEIN

NEW HAVEN, CONN.

WILL BUY ANYTHING IN MY LINES

Cable Address: HESS, New Haven, Conn.

COLLECTIONS
SOLD AT
PUBLIC AUCTION
IN NEW YORK
APPRAISEMENT
MADE FOR
EXECUTORS OF
ESTATES AND
COLLECTORS

New Haven May 13th 1911.

Mr.A.F.Holden,

My dear Mr.Holden:-

I have just secured a nice lot of rare ½ cents and beg to quote following prices.

These are all restrikes? and in beautiful proof condition.

1831	at $50.00	
1836	at $45.00.	— our only look at
~~1840~~	at $42.00.	
1841	at $40.00.	— want it
1842	at $75.00.	
1843	at $42.00.	— want it
1844	at $55.00.	
1845	at $85.00.	
1846	at $68.00.	
1847	at $55.00.	
1848	at $52.00.	
1852	at $30.00.	— look at ours

These are a value at the price and if there are any you can use,you had better,let me know at once.

Awaiting your early reply,I remain.

Very truly yours,

William Hesslein

Letter from William Hesslein, dated May 13, 1911, to Albert Fairchild Holden. Hesslein offers Holden rare Proof restrike half-cents from 1831 to 1852. The writing beside the Hesslein's offering prices is Albert's, addressed to his daughter Emery May. This is the only piece of correspondence addressed to Albert Holden surviving from the Norweb files. Hesslein was a prominent dealer in his time. In 1911 he was in New Haven, later relocating to Boston.

Under the circumstances therefore it was disappointing that our transaction did not work out, but I hope that hurdle in this instance will not prevent our getting together on many another occasions.

With personal regards,

Sincerely yours,
R. Henry Norweb

September 22, 1966

Dear Mr. Norweb:

I just returned from my South American trip and I was terribly dissappointed in the lack of gold coins, that is, rare and scarce items. Plenty of common material.

I did find two coins which were on your want list. However they are not exactly in the best condition, however I took them anyway and if they are not entirely satisfactory, please return them as my friend in Cuba is also looking for them. . . .

Trusting that you had a good summer, with kindest regards.

Sincerely,
Mortimer Hammel

November 27, 1957

Dear Mortimer:

I have gone through the list you were good enough to send us and the items on the attached sheet are of interest.

As for prices, I am frank to say that I will have to leave that to your judgment as you travel around, but if you are in any doubt I would be very glad to have you cable me at my expense as items become available. A night letter is delivered the next morning and cost very little, and if you will include your address I can have an answer in your hands within 24 hours or less. This procedure has worked with others and I see no reason why you and I should not be able to make it work too.

As for being condition conscious—yes we are. In this we differ from many of our Latin friends who will take anything with the right date—holed, gouged, or what have you.

Our own plans are to be here until about mid January when we may come to New York for a two-week visit. When do you expect to be back at home base?

Very sincerely,
Harry Norweb *[sic]*

Claridge's, London

May 17, 1958

Dear Mortimer:

We should have been homeward bound at this time but our departure has been delayed so that it now seems we shall miss each other in New York. Our arrival date is now May 28th, so the purpose of this note is to ask you to be good enough before you go to mail the coins I saw in New York, at the same time letting me know where my check should be sent for deposit to your account. . . .

All goes well—the trip has been a pleasant one from the viewpoint of travel and the joy of having our son with us for part of the trip. As for coins, we have seen a lot but found little of real interest except for some Latin- American silver.

With regards and best wishes for a good trip,

Sincerely,
R.H. Norweb

Bad Gastien, Austria

June 22, 1958

Dear Henry:

I tried to reach you by phone as you were sailing up the river on the 27th. I was on the *M.S. Berlin* on my way to Europe. The trip was pleasant but a little too long. Landed in Bremen in 12 days. Picked up my car. Drove through Germany. Called on all the coin dealers. Found nothing of interest. Germany is certainly gloomy.

Drove on to this beautiful spot and will be here for another three weeks. Owing to the uncertainties over here I don't know where I am going from here. Did you receive the Argentine coin I sent you from New York?

Hoping this finds both you and Mrs. Norweb in the best of health, and with kindest regards in which Mrs. Hammel joins.

Sincerely,
Mortimer

November 14, 1958

Dear Henry:

I have both your letters dated October 31st and November 1st before me and it is too bad that we could not discuss the situation in person, however I will do my best through correspondence.

For your information, there happen to be only two collectors with whom I deal direct. Clestino Joaristi in Havana to whom I sold my entire Spanish- American colonial coins, and I am interested in completing the series as if I still owned it. The other collector happens to be you. . . otherwise that I want to dispose of goes to dealers and my prices are exactly the same, which should answer your last paragraph of November 11th. It just so happens that you are the first to whom coins in question were offered, and I feel that they are all great rarities, except the Mexican five pesos. . . . If you still find the prices are too high, allow me to make the following suggestion. Return the coins which you do not want on account of price and should I find that I cannot realize the prices quoted and decide to take less, you will receive first consideration.

Trusting that the above information will assist you in making up your mind and with best regards,

Sincerely,
Mortimer

November 29, 1958

Dear Mortimer:

Returning from a series of hunting expeditions I found your two letters, to which I am replying at once since an answer has already been too long delayed. Naturally I regret the adamant attitude in what seems to me a reasonable approach and I shall be guided accordingly.

This note is just a stop gap. Let me have a few more days and I will return such coins as may not be needed in the circumstances. I always feel it is too bad when we can't get together.

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

Hollinbeck Coin Company

The Hollinbeck Coin Company, operated by Arthur M. Kagin and Paul Kagin, did business for many years at Suite 400-403, Royal Union Building, Des Moines, Iowa. During the 1950s the firm was one of the best known in the United States, with much attention having resulted from the spectacular buying done by the Kagins at the 1953 convention of the American Numismatic Association. Many letters and invoices are preserved from this era. Years later, Arthur and Paul Kagin went their own separate ways. Both continued to be important in the business, with Arthur M. Kagin joining his son Don in a venture which at one time included branch offices in several different cities. Several hundred mail bid sales and auctions were conducted by the Hollinbeck Coin Company and, later, Arthur Kagin.

Selected excerpts from correspondence are given here.

May 28, 1953

Gentlemen:

Here is our list for your May sale. I had intended going into the gold pieces but will hold off until I can get specimens in top condition.

We have your note about the outstanding United States collection. Of course we are interested, and on our return from Cincinnati on Tuesday we will attempt to get off an indication of any items in which we have a special interest. Meanwhile though do not hesitate to send us anything on approval. We are always interested in outstanding material. We were sorry to leave Chicago earlier than anticipated and without the opportunity of following up on our initial chat about some of the Proof eagles. I remember especially 1863, 1865, 1877. Was there also a 1796 that you offered?

As I think you know from earlier correspondence, gold coinage in Uncirculated or Proof condition is my particular field. Happily I made a start in this direction many years ago and have a good backlog, but Proof gold is not easy to come by these days.

Very truly,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

June 5, 1953

My Dear Mr. Kagin:

Enclosed is a check for the bids in your last sale. Also I am enclosing my check for $355.50 in payment of the 1877 Proof eagle.

I would like to keep the 1863 and 1865 Proof eagles and would enclose my check for them, except it is my impression that we spoke in Chicago of a 7½%, not a 5% discount. Upon reciept of my confirmation my check will go forward immediately.

As for the 1796 $10 eagle, it is returned herewith since we have obtained in the meantime an equally fine specimen. . . .

With personal regards,

Sincerely yours,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

Dear Mr. Norweb:

This will acknowledge receipt of your check covering purchases of the 1877 $10 and the return of the 1796 $10. Now that you mention it, I recall quoting you the 7½% discount on the 1863 and 1865. You may forward your check for these two items at your earliest convenience.

I am enclosing a few colonials for your inspection. Check them over at your convenience and return those which do not please you.

It is our pleasure to serve you.

Sincerely,
Paul Kagin

August 11, 1953

Dear Mr. Kagin:

This is a joint letter on the coins you sent. First let me say that Mrs. Norweb is delighted to have the colonials to examine. It is well that you said she could take plenty of time, as between summer vacations and getting ready to go Dallas, she has not had as much opportunity as usual for quiet study.

Now as to the coin sent on approval. The 1796 dime unfortunately is not a 4 Berry piece. There's a fifth berry under the eagle's wing which was probably overlooked. The obverse corresponds with Kosoff-9 and the reverse is likely to be also 9 except that I would not describe the E and A in AMERICA as touching leaves. The E is crossed by a leaf while the A barely, if at all comes into contact with the leaf. Kosoff's photographs are too poor to make identification sure. Unfortunately, Mrs. Norweb does not have [pictures of the Clapp Collection coins]. . . .

Yours very truly,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

September 14, 1950

Dear Paul:

Thank you for your thought in sending the 1796 dime. We were indeed looking for one until the convention, where Mrs. Norweb happened to find a splendid specimen.

We are just back at home base—but only briefly, as I have to be in Washington again this week.

Sincerely yours,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

The following message was enclosed with an invoice for a 1659 Maryland silver sixpence, "Small Bust No Period, supposedly the finest known," for $250, a 1787 Connecticut copper, Miller 44-W.4 for $25, and a 1787 Washington Confederatio copper for $1,500:

Dear Mrs. Norweb:

As I promised you in Dallas, I am again sending you the General Washington piece for your examination. I will pass your offer on to my client after hearing from you.

I laid aside the 1907 With Periods $10 gold at $750 and the $5 Proof gold which Mr. Norweb and I talked about. If you are not interested in either of the coins, I would appreciate hearing from you so that I may quote them to other friends. . . .

Art joins me in wishing you good health.

Paul Kagin

November 15, 1954

Dear Art:

I do not want to leave without a word of thanks for your invitation for Sunday evening. We just returned from a visit to my mother in Long Island just in time to take the train to Cleveland, and we were both sorry to miss the opportunity to talk over the sale and related matters.

I think you got the 1870-S at a reasonable price [at Stack's sale of the Anderson-Dupont Collection] considering that a specimen went at Cairo [at the Farouk Collection Sale] for about half that. We were interested in it as a companion piece to the 1838-O half dollar which presumably was also what you had in mind. Our interest in the coin continues and I hope that you will make a note in your files to this effect.

Very sincerely,
R. Henry Norweb

March 24, 1955

Dear Art:

In speaking with you by phone you mentioned developing a study of varieties of our gold coinage. While your present interest I know is more in the half eagles, I wonder if you would have come across an 1839 eagle, Head of '40, with Small Letters. So far as I can tell it is not in the Eliasberg Collection, but the American Numismatic Society has a notation that there was a specimen in the Colonel Green Collection. In your own experience have you come across such an eagle?

In our conversation the other day I forgot to ask you about the case for the 1870-S dollar about which I wrote you some time ago. We would like to have it to complete the transaction.

Very truly,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb, Jr.

April 16, 1955

Dear Friend:

Sorry I did not have the chance to answer you before today, however I have been snowed under with work trying to get things cleared up before leaving for the Central States Convention. I look forward to seeing you there and hope you both can make it.

In regard to the 1839 Eagle Head of '40, I can't say much about it as I have never seen it.

With regard to the holder for the 1870-S silver dollar, I did not see such a holder when it was on display at the auction, nor was

such a holder sent to me when I purchased this coin for my client. If you are sure that there was a holder or display case with the coin I shall be very happy to contact Stack's and see what happened to it.

Paul joins me in sending personal regards.

Sincerely,
A.M. Kagin

April 20, 1955

Dear Art:

Thank you for your letter of the 16th.

Yes, there was a special case with the 1870-S Dupont silver dollar. On page 105, toward the end of the description of the coin, it reads: "There is a black leather display case," and I remember seeing the coin in the case when the collection was being catalogued long before the sale. It might be worth making an inquiry of Stack's. Many thanks.

Very sincerely,
R. Henry Norweb

June 13, 1955

Dear Friends:

As you probably know, I wrote Stack's with regard to the black leather display case for the 1870-S silver dollar. They never bothered to answer my letter. . . . I make the following suggestion. Have a black case made up suitable to your liking and send me the full amount as I feel rather badly about this.

I trust that you had an enjoyable trip and that all went well.

Paul joins me in extending personal regards.

Sincerely,
Art Kagin

June 20, 1955

Dear Art:

We slipped away from the sale the other evening a little early, so did not have a chance to follow up the query about the two lots which you bid in successfully and in which we were interested. [With respect to the New Netherlands Sale; Lots 188 and 407.] This is one of the times when our wig wag system of communication did not work. On the whole though it operated very well and we appreciated your approach.

Do let me know if you still have the scrap of paper I gave you and if you can let us have the two items—with of course a reasonable mark-up for your trouble.

With best personal regards,

Very sincerely,
R. Henry Norweb

June 21, 1955

Dear Art:

We thank you for submitting the 1855-O quarter, but quite honestly we are looking for one in strictly Uncirculated condition, I am sorry if I did not make this point clear in earlier correspondence. The coin is a nice one and attractively priced, but that's the situation.

Very truly,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

June 27, 1955

Dear Friends:

While I do not have the following in stock, a collector friend of mine wrote me that he has the following. As I always have tried in the past to give you first chance at rarities, I will be glad to get them and send them down for your inspection if you are interested in any of them.

Half eagles: 1821, 1824, 1826, 1829.

Sincerely,
Paul Kagin

June 30, 1955

Dear Paul:

We are always glad to hear from you when anything special comes your way.

On the first three of the half eagles offered, only the 1829 Large Letters is missing, and that item went at such a sky-high figure that it is not on our want list at current quotations. The Small Letters type we picked up at Cairo.

Many thanks as always,

Yours sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

July 12, 1955

Dear Friends:

I just purchased the largest collection of National Bank notes in the United States. At one time you indicated that you might be interested in Ohio notes, and this collection contains a beautiful selection. Considering the face value of this collection the premium is not too great, and if you are interested in the entire unit of Ohio I'll be happy to send it down for your examination. Naturally you are under no obligation to purchase it.

Art joins me in extending you personal regards.

Sincerely,
Paul Kagin

July 20, 1955

Dear Paul:

Thank you for your letter of the 12th about the Ohio notes. What long memories you two have! Yes, we are interested in currency of this series for educational purposes, but the notes we are picking up should come from banks from the Western Reserve area, as indicated on the attached memorandum.

With personal regards,

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

August 22, 1955

Dear Art:

Until yesterday I had fully expected to see you at the [ANA] Convention [in Omaha] about various and sundry matters. In the last few hours the unpleasant prospect of a guided missile base being set up on or adjoining our home has knocked all our ideas out of the window. So instead of heading West tonight, as intended, I am Washington bound.

The currency came special delivery today, and I expect on my return later in the week to go through the Ohio notes to see what the Historical Museum could afford to add to its collection of Western Reserve bank notes.

As for the three colonial pieces offered in your letter of August 11th, I was going to make a deal with you at Omaha to get them as a birthday present for my wife. I am accordingly enclosing my check for $1,000, but would like to know if you could help me dispose of our duplicate Pine Tree sixpence Noe-32. Details of this would have to be arranged later since I would want this purchase to come as a surprise. However, I am hoping that you could come up with a fair offer for this piece that will help reduce the overhead.

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

August 29, 1955

Dear Art:

With this letter I am returning most of the bills you sent on approval. Of the notes with historical vignettes only one was in good enough condition to warrant adding to the collection. There were many clean crisp specimens and a lot to be sure, but either we had them already, or they were not of the type that would add to the exhibit.

I was sorry to have to miss Omaha, especially since my trip

to Washington was not particularly availing. It looks very much as though we are going to have to live with a big Nike site as our next-door neighbor.

Yours very truly,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

May 10, 1956

Dear Art:

Just a brief note to tell you that we appreciated your offer to stop over in Cleveland earlier this week. If we did not take advantage of your kind suggestion it was chiefly because of our reluctance to inconvenience you when our own thinking in terms of the collection had not yet cleared. As you know, Mrs. Norweb and I are still mulling over the thought of branching out into currency and as yet have not found the answer. In the circumstances then it seems to me the most effective way to approach it would be for you to give us an idea of what exactly is in the lot so that we could determine for ourselves the extent to which we might become involved.

Making our decision more difficult at the present time is a tremendous backlog of work still confronting us by way of cataloguing and digesting several substantial recent acquisitions.

With personal regards,

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

May 23, 1956

Dear Art:

We are still at two minds about the paper money and that being the case I am returning (separately) the lot that you kindly sent us for inspection. I am sure that some day there will be a meeting of the minds on this score, but at the moment this is not the case.

With regard to the Birch Cent, after seeing the coin I am the more puzzled at the value placed upon it. It is really not in first-class condition, with scratches along the face and in the field as well as a sizable edge nick. In making a price I wonder if you took these demerits fully into account.

Good, bad, or indifferent, I can tell you that I have every intention of getting the coin as an anniversary gift; but I would be a lot happier about it if I could get away from the feeling that the price is still somewhat out of line.

Sincerely yours,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

May 28, 1956

Dear Art:

Over the weekend I managed to give a little time to the problem of the Birch Cent and came across the enclosed item [which was not included in the file with the present letter]. This approach is on the basis of the Sheldon evaluations and is an interesting exercise in mathematics. According to the Sheldon formula: 40x30x1½ for rarity equals $1,800. When it has served its purpose, please return the article for the files.

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

May 29, 1956

Mr. R. Henry Norweb:

Thanks very much for forwarding the article as it is very interesting. It also bears out my theory that it is an actual coin and not a pattern. As for the rarity, I believe it to be as such. Your mathematics for the average Condition Census coins is correct, that is for the third, fourth, or fifth finest known. In practice, the finest known, or second finest known brings from double to triple the book value. This was borne out by the Dupont Sale and the Clarke Sale which recently took place.

Placing the value of this item on what it should actually bring at auction I would say this coin would bring closer to $3,500 than it would to your figure of $1,800. I honestly believe I am conservative in my value. I'm almost certain that I would not have any difficulty of selling this coin at my price of $2,500. Since almost every large cent collector needs this coin you could see what a large potential there is and of course having only the single specimen it is just a matter of offering it around. I feel morally obligated to offer Mrs. Norweb the first chance at all colonials and early United States coins that come through my hands, and that was the reason I gave you first refusal. In view of the special occasion I thought that I was being more than fair in giving you a 5% discount, since I feel that I can obtain the original price without any difficulty.

With regard to the "book value" I know for a fact that Dr. Sheldon has paid more than his own book value for coins. This is also true of his associate, Dr. Paschal, who was an important buyer of cents at both the Dupont and Clarke sales.

Art Kagin

July 4, 1956

Dear Art:

My powers of persuasion must be waning, or perhaps it is that you have built up a measure of immunity against the mathematical approach. Then too, in this case, as it was not possible to establish the "want value" in advance because of the importance of the surprise element, I found myself somewhat boxed by the inescapable fact that demand is all of 80% and supply only 20% when it comes to setting prices. So I will concede the point as graciously as possible and will send you a check, determined however when it comes to future presents to go about it in a little more practical way.

Sincerely yours,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

June 7, 1956

Dear Art:

I have arranged with the Cleveland bank to send a check for the amount due on the recent purchase of the Birch Cent plus $510 for the coins Mrs. Norweb kept from an earlier consignment. . . .

Looking forward to seeing you at the next convention.

Sincerely yours,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

The following accompanied a 1904 gold dollar, Lewis & Clark, Proof at $750:

October 21, 1957

Mr. R. Henry Norweb:

This is a true Proof, as you can readily see by comparing it to the regular strikes. I don't think I need to point out the rarity of this. Since the *Standard Catalogue* finally lists it in Proof I feel this rarity will be appreciated.

Paul Kagin

July 10, 1958

Dear Art:

I am indeed sorry about the circumstances which prevented our getting together over the past weekend, but the pressure of social amenities and house guests had priority over everything else. Also it is the season of the year when numismatic activities are generally superceded by vacation plans and the urge to spend as much time as possible out of doors.

We leave for Maine very shortly, but I know my wife plans to find time to check the remainder of the box of interesting items [early American and related coins, including Wood's pieces] you sent some time ago.

With personal regards to you both,

Very sincerely yours,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

May 26, 1959

Dear Friends:

It is nice hearing from you again. This will acknowledge receipt of the four returned coins. In regard to the 1811 half cent, both Paul and I would like to participate in the occasion of you presenting it to Mrs. Norweb. I will revise my price from $750 to $700 but cannot take any less for it.

From what information I could obtain about this coin, only six specimens were originally issued, and of them this is only the third specimen known. I have traced the other two and do not believe they will be available for a number of years as they are in "real" collectors' "hands."

As for the market value, I was just comparing present day prices with those that prevailed at the Dupont Sale nearly five years ago. I bought the Extremely Fine 1796 half cent With Pole out of Mike Kolman's recent sale in Cleveland. I paid $2,750 for this coin. The 1864-L Proof cent at the same sale was bid in by the Empire Coin Company at $2,350, no sooner did he leave the room then Jerry Cohen offered him $2,500 for this coin. I know that Jerry Cohen will certainly price it at more than what it cost, so what present values are today, I don't actually know. It seems there is no end in sight.

I bought the 1867 With Rays nickel in Proof out of Mike's sale in November at $1,750, then the one in Stack's sale of a month ago brought $2,500. I bought the 1876-CC 20-cent coin in Stack's sale of November 1957 at $3,800. Now another specimen in Stack's sale of a month ago brought $6,300. I only quote these prices to show what has taken place in regard to values today. If the 1811 half cent were to come up at auction, properly described, I believe that its estimated value would be at a minimum of $1,000, and would probably bring fairly close to that in keeping with the context of prices today. I thought my price of $750 was quite fair or else I would not have set it at that.

It is sometimes difficult for us who have been in this game a while to adjust to the fast changing ideas of value prevailing in the market today, but if we don't, we will soon run out of choice material.

Personal regards,
Art Kagin

June 22, 1959

Dear Art or Paul:

Mrs. Norweb has asked me to say that she has thought over the offer of the 1811 Mickley [restrike] half cent and has decided against it at the quoted price. It is returned herewith. Sorry we couldn't get together.

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb, Jr.

James, Inc.

The Norweb correspondence files contain several invoices for minor purchases from the company known as James, Inc. The firm was located at 300 West Main Street, Louisville, Kentucky, and was operated by the Karp brothers. Correspondence was engaged with Richard D. Kenney, who during the time indicated worked for the firm.

June 16, 1954

Dear Dick:

It is almost a month since your letter offering some Proof half dollars, but the pressure of events of late has gotten into our numismatic activities. However, I would like to know the price of 1811, 1822, 1830, and 1831.

Yours very truly,
R. Henry Norweb

June 18, 1954

Dear Mr. Norweb:

Thank you for your note of June 16th. Following are the prices on the Proof half dollars: 1822 $175; 1830 $150; 1831 $150.

I note you made a reference to 1811, which we do not have. Perhaps you meant 1818 in which case the price is $175. There is no need, I am certain, of emphasizing the rarity of these early Proofs.

In any event, I trust that we will see you both in your home town this August [at the ANA Convention in Cleveland].

Sincerely,
Richard D. Kenney

June 21, 1954

Dear Dick:

Thank you for your note of the 18th about the Proof half dollars.

The prices seem somewhat out of line, but I shall be in New York for the New Netherlands half cent sale and will check with the prices fetched by the Proof half dollars at the April sales. So you may expect to hear from me on my return.

Very truly,
R. Henry Norweb

July 8, 1954

Dear Dick:

While in New York I had a chance to check the prices of the Proof half dollars at the Graves Sale and I am puzzled at the discrepancies.

Very Sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

July 12, 1954

Dear Mr. Norweb:

Yes, the Proof half dollars sold at the Graves Sale were "stolen" and whoever bought them certainly did get a find. . . .

The discrepancy would sound puzzling. However, I assure you and Mrs. Norweb that had there been the slightest tolerance in our cost, the figures quoted to you would have been lower indeed. I know Mr. Karp is the last person to hold out for the highest dollar as he is interested only in moving merchandise.

At any rate I will see you all in Cleveland.

Cordially,
Richard D. Kenney

August 30, 1954

Dear Dick:

Before leaving Cleveland Mrs. Norweb asked me to return to you the enclosed Grate cent, which after a less hurried checkup than was possible during the convention, she finds she already has. She suggested that the credit of $22.50 be established in her favor, unless you have some better suggestion.

Sincerely yours,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

Sol Kaplan

Sol Kaplan, whose office was located at 413 Race Street, Cincinnati, Ohio, was prominent in the American numismatic scene for many years. He was one of several American dealers who attended the King Farouk Sale in Cairo in 1954. For a long time he was the leading light of the Professional Numismatists Guild, serving as general secretary and administrator during the formative years of the dealers' organization.

Sol Kaplan was a familiar at coin conventions during the 1950s,

Hallinbeck COIN COMPANY
SINCE 1928
A. M. KAGIN
PAUL KAGIN
TELEPHONE CHerry 4-3179
SUITE 400-403 ROYAL UNION BLDG., DES MOINES 9, IOWA

May 26, 1959

Hon. R. H. Norweb
1316 Union Commerce Building
Cleveland 14, Ohio

Dear Friends,

It is nice hearing from you again. This will acknowledge the receipt for the four returned coins. In regard to the 1811 - ½¢ both Paul and I would like to participate in the occasion of your presenting it to Mrs. Norweb. I will revise my price from $750.00 to $700.00 but cannot take any less for it.

From what information I could obtain about this coin, only six specimens were originally issued and of them, this is only the third specimen known. I have traced the other two and do not believe they will be available for a number of years as they are in "real" collectors "hands". As to the market value, I was just comparing present day prices with those that prevailed at the Du Pont sale nearly five years ago. I bought the extremely fine 1796 Pole-to-cap ½¢ out of Mike Kolman's recent sale in Cleveland. I paid $2,750.00 for this coin. The 1864 - L cent proof at the same sale was bid in by Empire Coin Company at $2,350.00 and no sooner did he leave the room then Jerry Cohen offered him $2,500.00 for this coin. I know that Jerry Cohen will certainly price it at more than what it cost so what present values are today, I don't actually know. It seems there is no end in sight. I bought the 1867 with Ray's nickel in proof out of Mike's sale in November at $1,750.00, then the one in Stack's sale of a month ago brought $2,500.00. I bought the 1876 CC 20¢ coin in Stack's sale of November 1957 at $3,000.00, now another specimen in Stack's sale of a month ago brought $6,300.00. I only quote these prices to show what has taken place in regard to values today. If the 1811 - ½¢ were to come up at auction, properly described, I believe that its estimated value would be at a minimum of $1,000.00, and would probably bring fairly close to that in keeping with the context of prices today. I thought my price of $750.00 was quite fair or else I would not have set it at that.

It is sometimes difficult for us who have been in this game a while to adjust to the fast changing ideas of value prevailing in the market today, but if we don't, we soon will run out of choice material.

Personal regards,

A. M. Kagin

AMK/oo

THIS YEAR, AS IN FORMER YEARS - "AMERICA'S LEADING COIN AUCTIONEERS"

Letter from Arthur M. Kagin to Ambassador Norweb, May 26, 1959, discussing the value of an 1811 restrike half cent. The last paragraph in the letter is as relevant today as it was in 1959!

and later in that decade he often exhibited a chalkboard with bid and ask prices for United States Proof sets and other items. While the main thrust of his business was wholesale with dealers, he conducted many retail transactions. An advocate of coin collecting as a hobby, Sol Kaplan engaged in many educational activities and philanthropies for the betterment of numismatics.

The Norweb correspondence file contains only a few items pertaining to him:

October 1, 1954

Dear Sol:

By way of a follow-up please let me know when we can get together on the Ohio notes from the Farouk Sale.

Yours sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

October 4, 1954

Dear Mr. Norweb:

I have just completed the list and items of the Ohio paper money. This list should give you an idea of the lot. My price for the lot as is; $1,000. I have several items in this lot that I can sell, such as the Metropolitan National Bank of Cincinnati. This is the only note known to be in circulation. Many others are in this lot. Please advise if the lot is of interest to you or any single item will be glad to price to you.

Awaiting to hear further from you.

Yours very truly,
Sol Kaplan

James Kelly

James Kelly, a jeweler by trade, began his numismatic career in the 1940s. During the 1950s his trade style was World Numismatiques, Inc., under which name he issued price lists and conducted auction sales. He handled many important rarities during his time and was one of the most prominent dealers on the numismatic scene. Later, in 1960, J. Oliver Amos of the Sidney Printing and Publishing Company, Sidney, Ohio, contacted him when the firm was making plans to establish a weekly coin paper, which made its debut as *Coin World*. Kelly was the main numismatic advisor for *Coin World* in the early days and conducted the "Trends" column listing current market values. In 1965, Kelly joined with Hon. Michael V. DiSalle (a former governor of Ohio), Max J. Humbert, James F. Ruddy, Q. David Bowers, and several others to form the Paramount International Coin Corporation, which later went on to many achievements in the field. The following letters are excerpted from many in the Norweb correspondence file.

June 20, 1952

Dear Sir:

I am enclosing my check for $5 for a copy of Newcomb's book of United States large cents (1816 to 1857) as advertised in the enclosed clipping.

I would also like to know if you have any idea where I could buy a copy of the *Dictionary of Numismatic Names* for $5.

Yours very truly,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

June 25, 1953

Dear Sir:

Received your letter of June 18th and wish to advise that we still have the coins which you selected when you were here at the office, and they will be shipped to you in a few days along with a few others which may interest you.

Thank you for your continued patronage.

Sincerely yours,
James Kelly

July 22, 1953

Dear Mr. Kelly:

Enclosed is my check for the [1805] 5 Berries dime [for $37.50] and those of the Canadian coins which helped fill gaps or improve condition of the collection.

As you will note from the enclosed check I have not kept as many of the Canadians as I had hoped, and I realize from looking over your gradings that our collection, accumulated over many years, is as so frequently happens, underrated by present day standards. In any event, please keep in mind our interest in anything outstanding in the Canadian series.

As regards to the 1879-O dollar, this must have been sent in error, as we bought an Uncirculated specimen at your last auction for $20.

Sincerely yours,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

January 13, 1954

Dear Sir:

We now have for immediate delivery the 1954 Washington-Carver half dollars at the following prices: one set $8, three sets $22.50, five sets $35. Your order will be greatly appreciated and promptly filled.

Sincerely yours,
James Kelly

January 21, 1954

Dear Mr. Kelly:

Herewith my check in the amount of $8 for one set of 1954 commemoratives.

Yours very truly,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

April 15, 1954

Dear Mr. Kelly:

Our paths crossed in Rome but I heard of you being there only a few hours before we were due to depart for Paris. I trust that by now you have completely recovered from the effects of the rough crossing.

We have only just returned ourselves, and are indeed glad to be home. Among the items awaiting me were the lots from the February 8th sale. Of these I am taking the liberty of returning for credit the 1889-CC dollar, which because of the abrasions is unworthy of being called brilliant.

On our next trip to Cincinnati I hope to pass by and see what you have of interest. We found the Farouk Sale most rewarding and of course there will be much to tell you.

Sincerely yours,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

April 27, 1954

Dear Mr. Norweb:

Thanks for your remittance and the nice note of April 15th.

I am still limping a little from a badly sprained ankle acquired on the boat trip to Europe. Other than that things are pretty well back to normal.

I purchased a number of items of interest, including the very rare 1926-S double eagle. This was one of the very few not in the Farouk Sale.

Hope to see you when you are down this way the next time.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,
James Kelly

MEMO

FROM

SOL KAPLAN
Numismatist
413 RACE STREET
CINCINNATI 2, OHIO

Oct. 4th. 1954

Dear Mr. Norweb;

I have just completed the list and items of the Ohio paper money. This list should give you an idea of the lot. My price for the lot as is ~~$1,000.00~~ $1,000.00. I have several items in this lot that I can se sell such as the Metropolitan National Bank of Cincinnati This is the only note known to be in circulation. Many others are in this lot. Please advise if the lot is of interest to you or any single item will be glad to price to you.

Awaiting to hear further from you.

Yours very truly,
Sol Kaplan

Letter from Sol Kaplan to Ambassador Norweb, dated October 4, 1954. In this letter, Sol Kaplan offers a collection of Ohio paper money. Included in the offering is a rare Metropolitan National Bank of Cincinnati note, which Kaplan considered to be the only piece known.

April 28, 1954

Dear Mr. Kelly:

I am glad to know that you are back at home base and plan to drop in on you within the next few weeks on our next trip to Cincinnati. Meanwhile let me have the particulars regarding the 1926-S double eagle. . . .

Sincerely yours,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

May 19, 1954

My Dear Mr. Kelly:

I wonder what happened to the double eagle. I hope you found a good berth for it and at the right price.

I was sorry to have to leave [the coin convention in] Milwaukee without having a chance to talk things over with you.

Yours very truly,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

January 26, 1955

My Dear Mr. Norweb:

I am writing you in regard to a 1926-S double eagle.

We have just obtained another specimen in Choice Uncirculated condition, fortunately at a more favorable price, and consequently I am able to offer it to you at considerably less than the one I showed you in Milwaukee last year.

My price on this Uncirculated 1926-S is $2,000.

You may recall that Stack's purchased the specimen from me in Milwaukee at $3,500 less 10%.

If you are interested, we will gladly submit this coin for your approval.

Thank you for your many past courtesies and I shall look forward to your reply.

Sincerely yours,
James Kelly

February 3, 1955

Dear Mr. Kelly:

Thank you for your offer of the 1926-S double eagle. The offering price is indeed a concession, but in the meantime we have been able to find an acceptable specimen and it is already in the collection.

I shall be away from home base for about six weeks, but I know you will keep us in mind should any other items of interest turn up. Any letters to my office here will be promptly forwarded.

With personal regards,

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

September 1, 1955

Dear Mr. Norweb:

Sorry not to have seen you at the Omaha convention [of the American Numismatic Association] which, incidentally, was a very pleasant and successful meeting.

Mr. Ford of the New Netherlands Coin Company requested that I send you an 1890-CC double eagle; this is enclosed. Trust this will meet with your approval.

Sincerely yours,
James Kelly

September 9, 1955

Dear Jim:

Returning from the Ottawa meeting I find your letter with the 1890-CC double eagle. I appreciate your sending it to me, as well as John Ford's interest in following up a request I made to him at the time of the Peake Sale [conducted by the New Netherlands Coin Company]. In the meantime I have acquired a nice specimen and am therefore obliged to return the example you were good enough to send.

You will be interested in knowing that I have of late been reviving my post-revolutionary collection of Latin-American gold, much of which was lost in a torpedoing in 1942. I have a fair amount left, but at this time I am looking for rarities, and above all, condition. Perhaps you can help.

Sincerely yours,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

November 13, 1956

Dear Mr. Norweb:

Thank you for your nice note of November 5th.

Due to the ANA Sale and the fact that I had been out of the city so much the past three months, we have fallen behind in putting out *COINS AND CHATTER* [Kelly's house organ].

In 1957, however, we definitely plan to issue this paper once again on a monthly basis, barring any unforseen difficulties.

It was nice hearing from you again.

Sincerely,
James Kelly

November 12, 1957

(telegram)

JUST RECEIVED YOUR NOVEMBER 7th CONSIGNMENT. UNFORTUNATELY THE O IN 1909 HALF EAGLE NOT MUCH BETTER STRUCK UP THAN SAMPLE WE ALREADY HAVE -STOP- I WAS ATTRACTED THIS LOT BY THE SHARP MINTMARK - STOP- GRANTED IT IS SHARP BUT AT THE SAME TIME CHARACTERISTICALLY WEAK AND NOT AS HOPED A DECIDED IMPROVEMENT OVER ONE WE HAVE -STOP- IN CIRCUMSTANCES WOULD YOU ALLOW ME TO RETURN THIS LOT REGARDS

R. HENRY NORWEB

November 12, 1957

Dear Mr. Norweb:

Received your wire and am somewhat surprised that you did not find the coin satisfactory, though not surprised that you have a very nice one in your extensive collection.

I tried to describe this 1909-O half eagle to the best of my ability in the catalogue as well as to you over the phone. However, if you believe the coin was improperly described, please feel free to return it.

Thank you for your many past courtesies.

Sincerely yours,
James Kelly

November 13, 1957

Dear Jim:

I appreciate your willingness to take the coin back. Let me assure you though that it was not a question of inadequate description, but rather a difference of interpretation.

R. Henry Norweb

A. Kosoff

A. Kosoff, known as Abe to his friends, began his numismatic interest in 1929. In 1937 he formed the Numismatic Gallery, New York City, and Abner Kreisberg joined as a partner several years later. During the 1940s the firm handled many important collections at auction, including the holdings of F.C.C. Boyd, billed as "The World's Greatest Collection," for Boyd wished to remain anonymous. Other noteworthy events included the Menjou, "Memorable," and other sales. The *Numismatic Gallery Monthly*, a house organ offering coins for sale at fixed prices, attracted a wide readership.

A. N. A. LIFE MEMBER NO. 83
AMERICAN NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

TELEPHONE—ADAMS 3601
RESIDENCE—MELROSE 5-4112

James Kelly

NUMISMATIST
Third and Broadway
Dayton, Ohio

REGISTERED MAIL

September 1, 1955

R. Henry Norweb
1816-17 Union Commerce Bldg.,
Cleveland 14, Ohio

Dear Mr. Norweb:

Sorry not to have seen you at the Omaha Convention which, incidentally, was a very pleasant and successful meeting.

Mr. Ford of the New Netherlands Coin Company, requested that I send you an 1890-CC Double Eagle; this is enclosed.

Trust this will meet with your approval.

Sincerely yours,

JAMES KELLY

JK:Hp
Enc. 1

WHEN YOU COMPARE PRICE, COMPARE QUALITY"

Letter from James Kelly to Ambassador R. Henry Norweb, dated September 1, 1955. Kelly writes that John J. Ford, Jr. requested that he send an 1890-CC double eagle, which was enclosed with the letter.

In 1954 the Numismatic Gallery, which by that time had relocated to Beverly Hills, California, was dissolved, and Abe Kosoff and Abner Kriesberg continued their profession independently after that date.

In 1954 Abe Kosoff attended the Farouk Sale held in Cairo, later writing many reminiscences concerning it (which can be found in *Abe Kosoff: Dean of American Numismatics*, a book by Q. David Bowers, 1985). At the Farouk Sale the Norwebs matched wits with Abe Kosoff and Sol Kaplan, who were operating as a team. Desiring to buy the 1913 Liberty Head nickel, which was offered as a part of a large lot of nickels(!), and realizing that Abe Kosoff would be bidding on it for his own account, shortly before the coin came up at auction, Mrs. Norweb instructed Abe Kosoff to "buy it for me." Thus, he was placed in the role of a professional dealer buying for a client, assuring Mrs. Norweb that if he bought it, she would be the owner.

The relatively few letters in the Norweb file are all that remain of what must have been an extensive correspondence.

April 16, 1953
(Telegram)
NUMISMATIC GALLERY REFERENCE TO YOUR LETTER PLEASE WIRE COLLECT IF YOU HAVE 1918-D AND 1925-D NICKELS AND AT WHAT PRICE
HON. R. HENRY NORWEB

April 16, 1953
(Telegram)
1918-D, 1925-D NICKELS AVAILABLE AT $43.50 AND $16.50. WILL HOLD
NUMISMATIC GALLERY

April 20, 1953
Dear Mr. Kreisberg:

Thank you for your telegram. Enclosed is my check for $43.50 in payment of the 1918-D nickel—that is, if in Uncirculated condition and sharply struck. I notice that recent offerings in the *Numismatic Scrapbook* list this nickel at $35 to $38 Uncirculated, so yours must be extra special if it is to command this extra premium. I am not interested in the 1925-D at $16.50.

There has not been an opportunity to work on the list, but hope to do so sometime this week.

Henry Norweb

December 30, 1953
My Dear Mr. Kosoff:

If still available would you be good enough to send on approval the 1917 Type I Full Head quarter dollar at $4.50. Also the 1920-D Uncirculated quarter dollar at $50, if it is a really fine specimen.

We need both of these items for improvement and ask you to be good enough therefore to send them on approval for purposes of comparison.

Do let us know when you will be coming East en route to Cairo. We plan to sail on the *Andrea Doria* February 4th.

Yours very truly,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

December 30, 1953
My Dear Mr. Kosoff:

This letter is being dictated to my secretary over the telephone as on returning home I find your note of the 28th inquiring about our Cairo plans. This crossed with my other letter of today's date.

Of course we are interested in perfecting arrangements for the sale, and since we shall all be in New York at the same time, please let us plan to meet at the apartment sometime before the 4th of February.

There is an answering service on this phone so that a message can be left for us should we not be there when you call. However, should you feel it desirable to talk over matters before that time, I hope you will telephone us here.

Yours very truly,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

January 4, 1954
My Dear Mr. Norweb:

Thank you for your two messages of December 30th.

I will be delighted to contact you upon my arrival in New York. Just plan for me on the evening of February 1. We can then arrange a definite and convenient time to discuss matters.

Of cordial regards and greetings of the seasons.

Very sincerely yours,
A.K.

April 14, 1954
My Dear Abe:

As my telegram will have indicated, there is no question of paying 200 pounds extra for the Liberty Head 1913 nickel. This was a straight bid we asked you to make, and your letting Kaplan execute it was your own affair. Time after time you told us that you and Kaplan were acting as a team. Perhaps you may remember that after acquiring the coin you expressed pleasure to Mrs. Norweb that you had been able to get it, and that you and I discussed the possibility of removing some of the corrosion. I cannot understand this new angle.

As to Lot 210, nothing was said from the floor that one coin was missing, so it will probably turn up in Cincinnati [where Sol Kaplan was reviewing certain Farouk purchases]. Let us hope so.

I am pleased to know that [Hans M.F.] Schulman is getting his purchases out [Schulman had an uncollected debt from the deposed King Farouk and made special arrangements with the Egyptian government for a credit at the sale; all purchasers at the sale worried about exporting their coins safely] and we will be looking forward to their arrival. Incidentally, I did not request Lot 275—but merely asked that four coins be earmarked for me.

Mrs. Norweb understands about the Kohler bar, and since she never gives out information as to prices, what you said is again your own business. So far I do not believe she has said that she bought it, as she thought that you might like to have the kudos.

I am returning the 1848 CAL. quarter eagle because I feel it is priced too high. Perhaps we had better forget any odd items until the furor from the sale calms down. In the meantime we will be thinking about our duplicates. Mrs. Norweb asked me to say that unfortunately she cannot do anything about gold dollars as she bought that lot for another collector who is holding his breath until it arrives.

My plans now are to be at the sale in Milwaukee and I shall be delighted to bring the Liberty Head nickel for [rest of letter copy is missing].

May 3, 1954
My Dear Abe:

Here is my check for your statement No. 20,874, minus the $9,000 already paid.

As to the other statement, no. 20,873, would you wish to have now a check for the Liberty Head or wait until delivering Lot 285 and Lot No. 1700? In any event, please send me a new statement to bring us up to date.

The extra $250 is for the 1848 CAL quarter eagle.

With personal regards,

Sincerely yours,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

September 14, 1954

My Dear Mr. Norweb:

We have finally returned home after a most delightful trip [including attendance at the ANA Convention held in Cleveland]. I need not tell you that the wonderful evening at the Norweb home was one of the highlights which we shall long remember. Please extend our thanks to Mrs. Norweb.

You undoubtedly will be pleased to learn that the four lots which Hans Schulman brought back are now being forwarded to you. I refer to Lots 254, 275, 285, and 1700 of the Farouk Collection. You know, of course, that Hans had considerable difficulty and he had the merchandise shipped out of Cairo to Basle, from whence he reshipped to the States.

You will find an invoice enclosed, and while you may mail the check to me, it may be drawn to the Numismatic Gallery, as this is one of the carry-over items [following the dissolution of Numismatic Gallery].

While in Cleveland I had hoped to discuss with you and Mrs. Norweb handling some duplicate items by listing in my new bulletin, which, incidentally, is proving to be a very effective medium. You might talk it over and favor me with a few choice tidbits which I know repose among the Norweb holdings.

Very likely I will have the pleasure of seeing you soon, since I plan to attend the Middle Atlantic Numismatic Association Convention in Washington as well as the Chicago meeting in October.

Very cordially,
Abe Kosoff

September 28, 1954

My Dear Abe:

Returning this morning after the sale one of my first ports of call was at the bank to arrange for the payment of your invoice No. 25,416 amounting to $6,123.60. We still feel that Hans took the long way around in getting the coins to us, but we live and learn. . . .

With regard to duplicate items, my wife and I hope to complete the inventory by the end of the year, so that in January you may expect to hear from us as to what is available.

As regards to the Chicago convention, all being well I hope to be there, but for one day only, since it comes at a time when the duck season is at its best.

With regards to you both,

Yours sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

September 19, 1957

Dear Abe:

Before leaving for Washington my wife asked me to write to you of her interest in seeing Lot No. 4 in your October 10 sale. Should this be a Fugio example which she does not have in her collection it might be something special I could get for her by way of an anniversary present. You can be sure it will be returned promptly.

It was good to see you both in Philadelphia. These chance meetings make me realize once again how much you are missed from the earlier pattern of your numismatic activities.

With regards,

Very sincerely yours,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

July 22, 1958

Dear Abe:

Your ANA Convention catalogue has eye appeal on the outside and substance within. Congratulations.,

I don't think my wife will make it, but I certainly hope to be there for at least three days.

Very sincerely yours,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

Abner Kreisberg

A partner with Abe Kosoff in the Numismatic Gallery until its dissolution in 1954, Abner Kreisberg then set up his own business as the Coin Gallery at 228 North Beverly Drive, Beverly Hills, California. From then through the 1980s he was prominent on the numismatic scene, conducting a number of auctions under the Quality Sales name, and handling numerous rarities. Jerry Cohen was associated with him for many years, beginning about 1960.

December 16, 1954

Dear Mr. Norweb:

I am enclosing a list of territorial patterns which are available, subject to prior sale, at $2,500. I also have available, subject to prior sale, collection of Proof sets from 1858 through 1915 inclusive, all brilliant gems, beautifully mounted. This collection is available, subject to prior sale, at $11,000.

Please let me hear from you regarding the above.

With kindest regards and seasons greetings, I am,

Sincerely yours,
Abner Kreisberg

The listing referred to included two $50 trial pieces of the United States Assay Office of Gold, one in silver and one in brass; an 1849 Pelican Company plain edge pattern, denomination unstated; 1849 Oregon $10 in lead or pewter; 1850 California Gold Mines in brass; 1860 uniface pattern $5, struck in silver, a type never issued, apparently a Mormon piece; 1860 uniface pattern for $5 in copper, Mormon issue; 1850 Mormon pieces, uniface in white metal, not otherwise described; 1849 Mormon $2½ in copper, reverse only; 1849 Dubosq pattern in copper; nine 1860 and 1861 Clark, Gruber & Co. pieces in copper, and various issues; 1834 Bechtler $5 in copper; 1850 Baldwin, set of two $10 struck in brass and pewter, "horseman" type.

December 22, 1954

Dear Abner:

Thank you for your thought of us with regard to the patterns and the Proof collection. It is good to know that you have us in mind when something special turns up.

In this case however I am afraid it has fallen on barren ground, since we do not collect trial pieces and our Proof sets are complete as of long standing.

My wife joins me in wishing you greetings of the season.

Very sincerely,
R. Henry Norweb

June 7, 1955

Dear Mr. Norweb:

I have in stock, subject to prior sale, the following four rarities:

1838-O half dollar—Uncirculated Gem $4,000.

1884 and 1885 trade dollars in brilliant Proof—for the pair $7,500.

1823 quarter—Extremely Fine $1,100.

I need not tell you how rare these items are. If you can use any of them, please let me know.

Sincerely yours,
Abner Kreisberg

June 16, 1955

Dear Abner:

Many thanks for your letter of the 7th which I found awaiting me here on arrival yesterday.

Happily the collection has all three items, the first two having been in the collection for some time. The 1823 quarter however,

ABNER KREISBERG
Numismatist
228 NORTH BEVERLY DRIVE
BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA

CRESTVIEW 1-4281 BRADSHAW 2-5833

June 7, 1955

Mr. R. Henry Norweb
9511 Lake Shore Blvd.
Cleveland, 8, Ohio

Dear Mr. Norweb:

I have in stock, subject to prior sale, the following four rarities:

1838-O half dollar - uncirculated gem.....$4000.00

1884 and 1885 Trade Dollars in brilliant proof - for the pair..... 7500.00

1823 quarter - extremely fine..... 1100.00

I need not tell you how rare these items are. If you can use any of them, please let me know.

Sincerely yours,

ABNER KREISBERG
ga

Letter from Abner Kreisberg, dated June 7, 1955, to Ambassador R. Henry Norweb. In this letter, Abner Kriesberg offers four great rarities for sale. At the time, the Norwebs already owned an 1838-O half dollar, as well as examples of the 1884 and 1885 trade dollars.

has only recently been added to replace the old one in Fine condition. I am sorry though your offer did not come sooner as it would have meant a sizable saving.

We are glad you are keeping us in mind when material of this fine quality becomes available. We shall be in Cleveland from now until the Omaha convention.

With regards,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

June 20, 1955

Dear Mr. Norweb:

Nice to hear from you again.

In your letter from London, you expressed an interest in the 1829 half eagle, Large Date. Let me know, as I have just placed an ad in the *Scrapbook*, as you will see, and we have had a few inquiries.

I had mentioned in my letter of May 24, that if you care to, I would be interested in acquiring one of your High Relief double eagles. Perhaps we could work out a trade.

I have also just acquired a 1796 quarter and half dollar in brilliant Uncirculated condition with prooflike surface.

Would appreciate hearing from you.

Would you like to see a photograph of the 1829, or we would be glad to send the coin on approval.

Best regards to Mrs. Norweb and yourself.

Sincerely yours,
Abner Kreisberg

June 20, 1955

Dear Abner:

Back from London to find your letter of the 20th about the 1829 half eagle, Large Date.

Quite honestly we feel that the current quotation for this item is out of line with our own want list. However, as always, we appreciate your thinking of our possible interest.

The High Relief double eagles are not available for reasons which can wait until we next meet.

Our 1796 quarter is in Uncirculated condition, but both varieties of the half dollar of that date are only Very Fine.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,
R. Henry Norweb

September 1, 1955

Dear Mr. Norweb

Missed you at the Omaha convention. It was a good one.

I have acquired an 1858 $10 gold piece. If this coin is of interest to you, it is available; subject to prior sale, $4,000.

Trust that Mrs. Norweb and yourself are well.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,
Abner Kreisberg

September 6, 1955

Dear Abner:

Many thanks for your thought of us in connection with the 1858 eagle, but this nice item is already in the collection.

Off for two days in Ottawa for the Canadian Numismatic Association meeting there.

With personal regards,

Very Sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

February 16, 1957

Dear Mr. Norweb:

Wonder if you would care to sell one of your High Relief $20s at a good price as we have someone who is quite interested in one. I would also like to buy the 1920-S and 1930-S $10 gold pieces. If these are available, or any others, please advise.

By the way, do you have an 1858 $10 piece? I have one available and would be glad to send it to you for your approval.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,
Abner Kreisberg

February 20, 1957

Dear Abner:

My wife who is away has asked me to answer your letter of the 16th.

Unfortunately the big item you mentioned is not available, and when I am next at the bank I will let you know should there be any duplicates of the eagles in which you are interested.

Yes we do have the 1858 piece—it's an old-timer in the collection.

With personal regards,

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

September 23, 1957

Dear Abner:

With regret I am returning the 1802 dime. Though in good condition, it is somewhat weakly struck and would not therefore greatly improve the specimen already in the collection.

I am enclosing $1 for handling charges in connection with sending this coin to us on approval. Many thanks.

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

September 25, 1957

Dear Mr. Norweb:

I received the 1802 dime, which you returned, this morning. I note you say that it does not greatly improve the specimen which you already have. I do not know whether to interpret this to mean the price is a little too high, if so, I would be glad to reduce it somewhat. As you know, it is a very scarce coin. If the price of $175 [earlier the coin was described as being Extremely Fine and priced at $200] would be agreeable please let me know by return mail.

I am enclosing the $1 which you sent to cover mailing. Thank you very much for your kind gesture but I do not feel it would be proper to accept it.

I haven't had a want list from you in a long, long time. I would greatly appreciate receiving one. Just be sure to give me the date, denomination and condition you want. I would be happy to work with you and I do get a great many rarities.

Look forward to the pleasure of serving you.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,
Abner Kreisberg

September 30, 1957

Dear Abner:

Your friendly note with its enclosure is appreciated. I'd like to go on the theory that short debts make long friends.

As for the 1802 dime, there was not really enough difference between the two specimens to warrant it. We are coming to realize that the collection, graded many years ago, will have to be advanced a notch or two to meet present day standards. A pleasant prospect I assure you.

In the course of the next few months we will work on a revised want list in the American series.

Yours sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

July 9, 1959

Dear Mr. Norweb:

I am enclosing as list of Gem Proof $20 gold pieces that I have just acquired.

Among other choice items, we also have a complete set of Wass Molitar gold, a complete set of Clark Gruber gold, and many other individual scarce items.

If any of these is of interest, please advise.

With best regards,

Sincerely,
Abner Kreisberg

The list included the following double eagles: 1859 $1,500, 1860 $1,450, 1862 $1,450, 1863 $1,450, 1864 $1,450, 1865 $1,750, 1866 $1,500, 1869 $1,500, 1872 $1,500, 1873 $1,400, 1874 $1,750, 1876 $1,300, 1881 $1,400, 1882 $1,450, 1883 $2,750, 1884 $2,750, 1885 $1,650, 1887 $1,950, 1888 $1,100, 1890 $1,100, 1892 $1,100, 1893 $1,100, 1895 $1,000, 1896 $1,000, 1897 $1,000, 1898 $1,000, 1899 $1,000, 1900 $1,000, 1901 $1,000, 1902 $1,000, 1903 $1,050, 1904 $1,000, 1906 $1,000, 1907 $1,000, 1908 $1,000, 1909 $1,000, 1910 $1,000, 1912 $1,000, 1913 $1,000, 1914 $1,100, and 1915 $1,200.

July 22, 1959

Dear Sir:

Mr. Norweb is away from Cleveland and your letter of the 9th will be forwarded as soon as he is long enough in one place for mail to catch up with him.

Very sincerely yours,
Secretary to Hon. R. Henry Norweb

October 29, 1957

Dear Abner:

In a recent letter you were good enough to ask for a want list. About the only thing at present I am working on is United States gold, and I am trying to improve the 1915-S eagle and to find a 1927-D double eagle.

My son would be interested in any of the following in Uncirculated condition:

Half dimes: 1842-O, 1844-O, 1849-O, 1863, 1864, 1866, and all San Francisco Mint issues.

Dimes: 1845-O and 1856-S.

Quarters: 1841-O, 1851-O, 1858, 1860, 1864, 1872, and all San Francisco Mint issues.

Very sincerely yours,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

B. Max Mehl

Without question, B. Max Mehl, who operated from his Mehl Building in Fort Worth, Texas, was America's most prominent rare coin dealer during the first half of the 20th century. Beginning business in 1903, he went on to conduct many important mail bid sales, which he styled as "auctions" (although no in-person attendance was ever involved), including the Ten Eyck, Dunham, Atwater, Neil, and other offerings. He was best known for his *Star Rare Coin Encyclopedia*, which sold for $1 per copy, and which listed buying prices for the 1913 Liberty Head nickel, 1804 silver dollar, and other rarities. During the 1930s in particular he advertised the *Star Rare Coin Encyclopedia* heavily, and at one time he even featured it on his own radio program. The Fort Worth Post Office stated that well over 50% of the mail received during this period was directed to Mehl's coin business.

At the same time he was buying from the public, he was also actively engaged on the serious side of numismatics. A familiar face at national conventions, B. Max Mehl was well liked. At one time the American Numismatic Association gave him a special award for helping to promote the hobby.

During the 1950s, the period covered in the correspondence in the Norweb file, Mehl gradually retired from activity, passing away in 1957, after which time Mary Ferguson, secretary, carried on for a short time. Later, Mehl's estate was handled by Abe Kosoff.

October 12, 1953

My Dear B. Max:

Congratulations on your success in getting the New York collection. I knew the gentleman quite well, but largely in matters related to the bank's business in South America. I look forward to receiving the list of his collection, and of course to having your forthcoming auction sale catalogue hot off the press.

You will be glad to know that my wife has just gone over the top handsomely with her charity sale, netting nearly $50,000 for the Civic Gardens of Cleveland. Personally I hope it will be the last sale of its kind she will undertake, for it is the sort of thing which demands too much of her energies.

She joins me in regards to you both.

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

November 17, 1954

My Dear Mr. Norweb:

Thank you very much for your gracious note of the 15th just received.

Pleased to send you herewith for inspection Lot 3797 and of course will enter your bids on the other coins if I do not hear from you to the contrary.

Shall look forward with a great deal of pleasure to hearing from you and Mrs. Norweb with bids for any other items in the sale. I want to call your particular attention to Lot 1919, the Dubosq $10 gold piece. Mrs. Norweb told me [at the ANA Convention] in Cleveland that she is beginning to expand the pioneer section of your great collection. This is an opportunity to acquire a real great rarity at a fair price. I assure you that whatever bids you may send will be executed as faithfully as if you had yourself been present at the sale.

With kindest personal regards to both of you, as ever

Sincerely yours,
B. Max Mehl

April 11, 1955

My Dear B. Max:

It is ages since we have heard from you and we are wondering if all goes well and if there will be a chance of seeing you either at Detroit or New York or both. It is strange to be so well into the new year without the collection having benefitted by any new additions from you. The last we had was some colonial material at your last sale, and we are wondering when you are likely to have another first-class offering.

In any event do let us have your news, and with best regards to you from both of us

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

November 10, 1955

My Dear B. Max:

It was good to pick up the phone this morning and to chat with you about the quarter dollar series. As promised, here is a list of the branch mints in which we are especially interested. [1840-O, 1841-O, 1842-O, 1844-O, 1847-O, 1851-O, 1852-O, 1856-S, 1857-O, 1858-S, 1859-O, 1860-S, 1864-S, 1867-S, 1868-S, 1871-S, 1873-S, 1874-S, 1875-S, and 1891-O.] I know you will do the best you can for us.

Happily, we have a nice example of the 1855-O quarter.

Sincerely yours,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

B. MAX MEHL
NUMISMATIST
MEHL BUILDING
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

Air Mail
Registered

November 17th
of my 54th Numismatic Year
1 9 5 4.

Honorable R. Henry Norweb,
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Mr. Norweb:-

Thank you very much for your gracious note of the 15th inst. just received.

Pleased to send you herewith for inspection Lot 3797 and of course will enter your bids on the other coins if I do not hear from you to the contrary.

Shall look forward with a great deal of pleasure to hearing from you and Mrs. Norweb with bids for any other items in the Sale. I want to call your particular attention to Lot 1919, the Dubosq $10.00 gold piece, as Mrs. Norweb told me in Cleveland that she is beginning to expand the pioneer section of your great collection. This is an opportunity to acquire a real great rarity at a fair price. I assure you that whatever bids you may send will be executed as faithfully as if you had yourself been present at the Sale.

With kindest personal regards to both of you, as ever

Sincerely yours,

BMM/MF.

Letter dated November 17, 1954 from B. Max Mehl to Ambassador R. Henry Norweb, thanking the Ambassador for his bids. Mentioned is Lot 1919 in his sale, a Dubosq $10 gold issue.

November 15, 1955

Dear Friend Mr. Norweb:

Due to the fact that our office is closed on Saturday, your good letter of the 10th only reached me yesterday. By the time I went to the vault to get the coins it was too late to forward them yesterday, so here they are by air registered and I trust you will find them all, or most, satisfactory.

It is not necessary for me to tell you how difficult it is to obtain these scarcer items in choice condition this day and time. They are only available when complete collections come on the market. Mr. Mehan was about a quarter of a century getting these quarters together.

Congratulations on your ownership of the 1855-O. This quarter in choice condition is exceedingly rare; far more so than is generally recognized.

Many thanks, with kindest personal regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,
B. Max Mehl

The invoice dated November 15, 1955 enclosed the following Uncirculated quarter dollars: 1840-O $13.50, 1842-O $20, 1843-O $18.50, 1844-O $14.50, 1847 $18.50, 1852-O $32.50, 1856-S $150, 1857-O $15, 1859-O $12.50, 1867-S $67.50, 1868-S $67.50, 1871-S $100, 1873-S With Arrows $60, 1874-S $50, 1891-O $225, for a total of $865, or for the entire lot a net of $800.

November 21, 1955

My Dear Max:

Thank you for the fine lot of quarters. My check for $800 is enclosed.

The 1840-O specimen is being returned since the variety wanted is "Without Drapery at Elbow." This was an oversight on my part, but I hope you have the wanted example.

Will you make a special note that we very much need the 1875-S quarter.

With personal regards,

Yours sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

April 2, 1956

Dear Hon. Mr. Norweb:

By this time you have undoubtedly received a letter from the National Conference of Christians and Jews that the Conference is honoring Mr. Mehl this coming Monday evening, April 9th, with a banquet and a citation for his outstanding citizenship in our community.

This letter is written without the knowledge of Mr. Mehl, but knowing how deeply interested he is and always has been in the affairs and progress of numismatics, and knowing how deeply grateful he is for so many wonderful friends he has made in his profession, I am taking the liberty of making a suggestion which I trust you will not consider presumptious on my part. Would you mind sending Mr. Mehl a congratulatory message on the evening of this affair? . . .

If you feel inclined to do this, I will personally appreciate it, and I can assure you that Mr. Mehl will consider it one of the outstanding friendly gestures of this important occasion.

Thanking you, I am with kind regards,

Cordially yours,
Mary Ferguson,
Executive Secretary

April 9, 1956

(Telegram)

B. MAX MEHL

THROUGH NUMISMATIC CHANNELS UNDERSTANDING YOU ARE RECEIVING TONIGHT A WELL MERITED CITATION FOR OUTSTANDING CITIZENSHIP IN YOUR COMMUNITY -STOP- MAY WE ADD OUR CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES.
HON. R. H. NORWEB

March 26, 1957

My Dear B. Max:

This is the last day at my office before leaving on a trip for several weeks abroad, and I am starting it with a note to tell you of my wife's and my distress of hearing that you have been out of circulation. Aside from the annual convention, our paths unfortunately seem to cross all too infrequently these days. It was not until last week in Washington that we heard you had not been well.

This is to let you know of our thoughts about you and our hopes that you may be well on the way to complete recovery.

With our best regards to you both,

Ever sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

October 23, 1957

Dear Mrs. Ferguson:

My wife and I have just returned from a long absence. The news therefore of Mr. Mehl's death has only just reached us. You know of our long and friendly association and of our esteem for him. Even as his friends have suffered a great loss in his passing so has the world of numismatics.

Our heart-felt sympathy to the members of his family, as well as to yourself who are so closely associated with him.

Very sincerely yours,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

November 4, 1957

Dear Friends:

Thank you so much for your kind letter of the 13th and for your kind expression of sympathy.

While Mr. Mehl had been ill since last October and had not been in the office during this time, it still was a great shock to us when he passed away on September 28th, and we are still not accustomed to his not being here.

Mr. Mehl always treasured you and Mrs. Norweb as his friends and I believe you already know that he treasured most highly the friends he had made during his long years in this profession.

We are carrying on as usual, and if you need anything in the future, shall be most happy to hear from you.

With kindest regards,

Very sincerely,
Mary Ferguson
Executive Secretary

Miami Rare Coin Company

Operated by William Fox Steinberg, the Miami Rare Coin Company did business at 2045 Biscayne Boulevard, Miami, Florida. The Norweb correspondence files are mostly associated with the acquisition of world coins, primarily Spanish-American issues, but a few scattered notes pertaining to United States coins are also included.

October 22, 1958

Dear Bill:

I am intrigued by the Wass Molitor $50 piece and we could be interested in your specimen at somewhere around the figure you quote.

Strangely enough this is the third one that has been available in as many weeks. The fancy asking prices discourage me, but

this is more in line with reality. Will you take a chance and send it on approval?

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

October 24, 1958

Dear Sir:

The slug I referred to was No. 17 in Kagin's advertisement, not No. 32.

I sent the coin to Kagin yesterday, after a telephone conversation. If his check doesn't arrive immediately, I will have the coin forwarded to you.

Instead of looking for a formula to change base metal into gold, how much simpler it would be if I could sell the same coin two or three times!

By the way, do you bother with Ohio obsolete currency? I have several nice pieces. Also I can supply $20 gold pieces, 100 pieces for $4,075 the group.

Bill Steinberg

October 29, 1958

Dear Bill:

Thanks for your note about the $50 gold slug. I do not remember the Kagin list, but in any event I have just acquired a very fine Indian Peace medal, so for the moment I am not interested in this pioneer gold coin.

I note what you say about United States gold. We have quite a good collection but I'm always interested in adding examples in top condition, so I hope you will keep us in mind.

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

November 25, 1958

Dear Mr. Norweb:

Thank you for your checks. I have just returned from a long trip and it was a very successful one. . . .

Are you interested in Washington medals? Political badges? Americana medals? I have just purchased about 150 pieces from a very fine collection. I have also purchased about 90 United States $20 gold—1852 on up—no very rare dates, but the finest condition imaginable in common dates. . . . I would be glad to itemize or send on approval anything.

Many thanks,

Bill

December 3, 1958

Dear Bill:

Sometime after Christmas I will go through the 20s to see what we need, if any, in top condition.

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

New Netherlands Coin Company

New Netherlands Coin Company was formed in the 1930s by Moritz Wormser, who earlier had served six one-year terms as president of the American Numismatic Association, the longest tenure for that office in the history of the organization. In the 1950s, New Netherlands was owned by his son, Charles M. Wormser, with John J. Ford, Jr. as an associate. The firm brought to the hobby a new high standard of authoritative catalogue descriptions, with extensive presentation of details, historical data, and other information. Among old-time and advanced collectors in particular, New Netherlands achieved an outstanding reputation during the 1950s, the decade of the correspondence to follow. John J. Ford, Jr. recalled that Hon. R. Henry and Mrs. Norweb were frequent visitors to the New Netherlands office located on the fourth floor at 1 West 47th Street, New York City. Typically, John J. Ford, Jr. would handle the coin transactions, often with Walter Breen, who worked there at the time, providing additional information concerning rarity and die varieties. A large number of coins were acquired through this source by the Norwebs, including many pieces which had formerly belonged to Virgil Brand, F.C.C. Boyd, and other famous collectors.

The Norwebs participated in many of the New Netherlands auctions held during this period, often asking for advice concerning which coins to compete for and at what levels. At sporadic intervals, a house organ, *Numisma*, was issued, but "not often enough," noted Mrs. Norweb, who, like many others, enjoyed reading it. During the era, the Norwebs relied upon New Netherlands as a source for much technical information, for coin supplies (the first item in the file is an invoice for 5,000 brown kraft paper envelopes for $8.50 on September 23, 1952), and, of course, for many numismatic specimens.

October 1, 1953

Dear John:

Enclosed are two of the items [a 1739 Higley threepence, Crosby plate VII, No. 26, $325; 1795 large cent, S-75, MS-65 $275] which you turned over to me the other day on approval. The balance of the list is definitely of interest, but my wife will write to you in about a week's time. Until then she is completely occupied with her charity sale.

Very truly yours,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

October 29, 1953

Dear John:

I see we must act fairly promptly if the Canadian collection is to benefit from the credit fund before it is all whittled away. In truth I had hoped that in addition to the 1880 $2 Newfoundland gold piece you would have had a chance to have gone through our Canadian checklist and become inspired.

In any event let me know how we stand and what the chances are, not only for the gold coin and any other new material, but also for the 1914 Proof quarter to replace the Wooster specimen which was unattractive.

I know full well how occupied you have been with sales, post sales, and auctions, but now the dust is settled we begin to look around for new horizons.

With the duck season in full flight, shall we say, our New York trip has again been postponed, but we most certainly count on being there once again before mid November.

With regards to all,

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb
P.S.: What a grand job was done on our half dollar series!
Last minute P.S.: I have your invoice dated October 23rd for Item 142 of the Washington Sale. However, this coin has not yet put in an appearance, and with a lapse of 10 days perhaps an inquiry should be made at your end.

November 6, 1953

Dear Ambassador:

This is my first opportunity to tell you how badly I felt about the Stack 1914 Proof quarter. I have to strike out once in a while regardless of the batting average.

I am holding the only 1880 Newfoundland gold $2 that I could locate that was free of gouges, nicks, solder, and other imperfections. I also have among other interesting items for you a 1946 Newfoundland 5c, without the usual imperfections, and a few other interesting items.

We have probably the second or third finest known 1889 Cana-

dian dime along with a few other rarities in lines from a private collection, however, to get these for you we would have to trade something the gentleman wants. Unfortunately, he only wants Canadian pattern or Canadian paper. He also has some regular Canadian coins in Proof which are not exactly to be sneezed at. We can stall this deal for quite some time, if you want us to.

Please advise us when you and/or Mrs. Norweb are coming to town as I defintely want to be in the office.

We may have a super deal lined up for Mrs. Norweb's collection of colonials but it involves a considerable sum of money. I cannot tell you what it is at this time, but in its series it is the finest collection in existence. More about this when we see you.

If we were any busier, we would be ready for straightjackets.

Looking forward to seeing you both soon. Very best personal regards, in which all join.

Sincerely,
John J. Ford, Jr.

December 28, 1953

Dear Charles & John:

Plans for our next New York trip are definitely taking shape, and we have space leaving Cleveland on the evening of January 14th, so that all being well we shall have that whole week in New York. With Cairo dates growing closer there should be much to talk over. Space available, we plan to sail from New York on the *Andrea Doria* February 4th.

Just two items that come to mind. First, do you happen to know if Futter [Oliver Eaton Futter, a leading collector at the time] disposed of all of his early American material to Max Mehl, and if in his collection there might be something of interest to us? Likewise, let me bring to your attention that the other item on my list has to do with Lot G-1700 in Seaby's December list. Although realizing that these coins come up so infrequently that it is hard to pinpoint a price, it would seem that there is a rather substantial difference between this Seaby item and a similar one only recently purchased from you in AU condition. Perhaps you could commune among yourselves and see what could be done to bring the picture into focus.

With every good wish for a happy and successful New Year,

Sincerely yours,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

December 31, 1953

Dear Charles & John:

Your joint response [a copy of which does not survive in the files] to my omnibus letter seems to clear the decks for the year end.

It is not my intention to seem to persist in any discussion of quotations because as you know all our transactions have been on a give and take basis. In this one instance though the discrepancy seemed to be important enough to warrant at least a passing reference, in the exchange, while not closing the door, has added perspective for all of us.

With every good wish for the New Year,

Yours very truly,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

June 16, 1954

Dear John:

We have been offered a 1937 Canadian 50-cent piece in aluminum-bronze Proof. This is a striking of the regular dies of 1937, but in a special metal. If you have any information about this specimen I would appreciate any and all particulars.

The asking price is $250 since it is said there are only two strikings in this particular metal.

Yours sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

June 18, 1954

Dear Ambassador:

In response to your recent note concerning a 1937 Canadian half dollar in aluminum-bronze, can advise you of the following.

This is strictly a pattern item. It is by no means unique, does not belong in your collection, and is not worth $250, or anything like it. Like all items of recent vintage emanating from Ottawa, we would view it with jaundiced eyes. To give you an idea of comparative value, we recently sold a 1942 United States cent in similar alloy for less than one-half the figure mentioned. We also have currently in stock the 1926 United States Sesquicentennial half dollar in bronze, at a considerably lower retail figure than $250.

It is unfortunate, but a great deal of the hysteria over decimal Canadiana is little more than hysteria.

Hope this gives you some idea of what I think of the piece and its price.

We are all looking forward to seeing Mrs. Norweb and you next week.

Sincerely yours,
John J. Ford, Jr.

August 25, 1954

My Dear Ambassador Norweb:

I am able to answer you on both counts in that I have been able to talk to both Mr. Raymond and Hans Schulman.

Regarding the former, he said that the coin was not 1935 but 1939, that he does have certain Proofs left and can furnish one to me to retail at $20.

Regarding the latter, Hans has just been on the phone and whereas I did not mention the lot in question specifically, he told me that he had not gotten to any coins and would not be able to do so for several weeks. . . . Will be on the look-out for you and report what I can [this commentary apparently refers to delays Hans M.F. Schulman was experiencing with regard to the importation into the United States of his purchases made at the King Farouk Sale in Cairo].

I am glad to hear that Mrs. Norweb and you are recovering, and with warm personal regards to the two of you,

Very Sincerely,
Charles M. Wormser

August 27, 1954

(receipt)

Received from Mrs. R.H. Norweb the following false and fraudulent coins from my personal reference collection. It is understood that these pieces were given gratis to me from the Holden-Norweb Collection and are to be held by the undersigned only for purposes of comparison, instruction, and reference:

Fugio dollar, Dickeson struck copy, white metal (found to be an inferior duplicate of a perfectly salable and legitimate item); 1799 large cent, electrotype; 1792 Getz Washington half dollar, electrotype; two 1791 Getz Washington half dollars, Idler copies; 1789 Robinson "cent"—struck fabrication; 1737 Bolen Higley cent; 1803 Kettle half eagle; Sommers "twopence"—fabrication; 1834 half eagle—contemporary counterfeit in copper; 1665 "XII PENCE" silver fabrication; six Feuchtwanger alloy and nickel counterfeit half dollars.

John J. Ford, Jr.

August 30, 1954

Dear Charles:

Many thanks for your prompt response of the 25th. I must have mixed up the dates on the Canadian Proof dollar for I already have a 1939 specimen, purchased directly from Mr. Raymond, but thanks again for your trouble.

In any event I know you and John will keep in mind at all times

Rare Coins, Medals and Paper Money — Bought and Sold

New Netherlands Coin Co., Inc.

SUITE 401
1 WEST 47TH STREET
NEW YORK 36, N. Y.

PHONES PLAZA 7-5245-6

October 27, 1954

Data re the 1926 "D" Double Eagle, prepared for-

Hon. R. H. Norweb
9511 Lake Shore Blvd.
Cleveland 8, Ohio

Number coined: 481,000 pcs. (compared to 2,041,500 of the '26 "S").

Auction records: (1) World's Greatest Coll., 1946, lot 1044, $1,300.00
(2) Dr. C. W. Green Coll., 1949, lot 916, $2,500.00
We quote B.M.M. in his description of this lot-
"The rarity of this coin may well be surmised from the fact that none of the great collections of Double Eagles offered on the market in the last few years had a specimen of it. Such great collections as the Bell, 'The World's Greatest' and others. THIS IS THE FIRST SPECIMEN EVER TO BE OFFERED AT AUCTION." Naturally, Mehl neglected to carefully read the W.G.C. catalog (the Boyd coll.).
(3) The Menjou Coll., 1950, lot 1995, $2,000.00
We quote Kosoff is his description of this lot-
"-perhaps as rare as any double eagle, if not more so."

Summary: We can only locate the above three "bona-fide" sale records for this coin. Records exist of specimens changing hands at private sale, but these prices cannot be authenticated.

Conclusions: The very rare "D" Mint Double Eagles appear to be comparatively more substantial value wise, if for no other reason than the much lower numbers coined. Also, within recent months, several of the very rare "S" Mint Double Eagles have appeared, mainly from sources in the far east. The "D" Mint coins have not appeared in any quantity (even in duplicate), and the solitary pieces that are found, come from Europe.

Respectfully submitted,

John J. Ford, Jr.

Creators of Distinguished Numismatic Auction Sale Catalogues

Letter from John J. Ford. Jr. of the New Netherlands Coin Company, to Ambassador R. Henry Norweb discussing the rarity of the 1926-D double eagle, considered at the time to be one of the most elusive pieces in the double eagle series. Later, several dozen pieces were located in European banks, so that today, while rare, the 1926-D is not the prime rarity it once was.

my interest in corralling late Canadian Proof sets as they become available, either individually or collectively.

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

August 30, 1954

Dear Ambassador and Mrs. Norweb:

I arrived back last Thursday [from the ANA Convention in Cleveland] after a brief visit to Chicago. I'm awfully sorry but this is my first opportunity to thank both of you for your wonderful hospitality. I really had a very good time during our four days together, and consider the little work involved as pure pleasure, rather than labor. My only regret is that the time passed all too quickly.

It is unfortunate that once the convention started, I had little time to talk to you.

(1) I would appreciate your getting to me at your convenience, the annotated Charlton and *Standard Catalogue*, the last listing what you need in United States copper and silver.

(2) Enclosed you will find my receipt for the fakes and copies so generously given to me. I found the Dickeson Fugio dollar a duplicate, and added it to the New Netherlands stock as a salable item at $2. We will apply the $2 at an opportune moment against a future purchase; (we have sold struck copies, such as Bolens, et al). It will take me a little time to pick out my New Brunswick "piece de caprice," as I put it in the bank prior to my moving.

(3) Tell the Ambassador that his concern about the 1939 "Proof" Canadian dollar was not necessary. You people already have one in your collection purchased from a Wayte Raymond list sometime ago at $20. Raymond has a quantity of these, and I do not believe they are Proofs. I discussed the whole Canadian Proof problem with Doug Ferguson while in Cleveland, which only confirmed my original suspicions. From an official viewpoint, the only true Proofs are the 1908, 1911, and 1937 sets. There are also bonafide Proofs of 1953 which were given encased to prominent Canadian officials. These of course are of excessive rarity. With the exception of a few odd pieces of various years and denominations, there were no Proofs struck from 1937 to 1953. The exceptions are those odd items made unofficially by an Ottawa Mint official no longer connected with the mint. The problem is to separate these from the superb first strikes made for circulation at Ottawa, but culled by eager-beaver collectors. Under no circumstances would I recommend putting real money in these things unless carefully checked.

(4) I carried a series of photostats re the Paquet [the 1861 Philadelpia Mint Paquet $20] to Cleveland, and forgot to give them to you. Brilliant what? Our article on this piece is progressing favorably.

(5) Let me know when you want to see some coins. I know that you have been doing a lot of buying, and do not want to send anything unsolicited. When something is available, do you want us to write first or send the coins?

This should be enough for now. Again, many many thanks for a very delightful "long weekend."

Sincerely,
John J. Ford, Jr.

August 31, 1954

Dear John:

We both appreciated your chatty letter of the 30th. Your preconvention visit was one of the high spots of the meeting.

Undoubtedly I was mistaken about Ferguson and the 1935 Proof dollar. It unquestionably was the 1939 Proof of which you remember. There is already one in the collection. My quandary on this score continues. I fully appreciate the limited issues of Canadian Proofs yet John Pittman was buying all the Proof dollars of 1947, 1949, 1950, and 1951 offered for sale at Toronto at an average cost of $15 each. When next in New York, probably 10 days hence, I would like to bring along a so-called Proof set of 1950, purchased at the Toronto sale.

As plans look at present, I shall be in New York on the 9th and 10th—and then again the week of the 20th, with Mrs. Norweb coming in for the large cent sale.

Yours very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

October 27, 1954

Dear Ambassador:

Enclosed you will find some information on the 1926-D double eagle.

This apparently is a very illusive [*sic*] coin, very few having shown up.

While I am particularly impressed with the limited number coined, an item of this sort still remains a "price" item. I have been assured that the piece in question is one of the usual "About Uncirculateds." In any event, we will advise you immediately upon receipt of the coin, stating the exact price and exact conditions.

Very best personal regards,

Sincerely,
John J. Ford, Jr.

October 27, 1954

Data re the 1926-D double eagle, prepared for Hon. R.H. Norweb:

Number coined: 481,000 pieces (compared to 2,041,500 of the 1926-S).

Auction records:

(1) World's Greatest Collection, 1946, Lot 1044, $1,300.

(2) Dr. C.W. Green Collection, 1949, Lot 916, $2,500. We quote B. Max Mehl in his description of this lot—"The rarity of this coin may well be surmised from the fact that none of the great collections of double eagles offered on the market in the last few years had a specimen of it. Such great collections as the Bell, 'The World's Greatest' and others. THIS IS THE FIRST SPECIMEN EVER TO BE OFFERED AT AUCTION." Naturally, Mehl neglected to carefully read the World's Greatest Collection catalogue (the Boyd Collection).

(3) The Menjou Collection, 1950, Lot 1955, $2,000. We quote Kosoff in his description of this lot: "Perhaps as rare as any double eagle, if not more so."

Summary: We can locate the above three "bonafide" sale records for this coin. Records exist of specimens changing hands at private sale, but these prices cannot be authenticated.

Conclusions: The very rare "D" Mint double eagles appear to be comparatively more substantial valuewise, if for no other reason than the much lower numbers coined. Also, within recent months, several of the rare "S" Mint double eagles have appeared, mainly from sources in the Far East. The "D" Mint coins have not appeared in any quantity (even in duplicate), and the solitary pieces that are found, come from Europe.

Respectfully submitted,
John J. Ford, Jr.

Note: at the time, a great interest was developing in the collecting of Saint-Gaudens double eagles by date and mintmark sequences, an interest which had its inception in the previous decade. Prior to that time, few people studied the series. It developed that a number of rarities existed, especially the branch mint issues of 1924, 1926, and 1927. Toward the end of the 1950s, later than the date of the letter just quoted, hoards of gold coins in Europe were thoroughly searched, and more specimens became available. However, in 1954 several of the issues, including the 1926-D, were considered to be extremely rare.

November 1, 1954

Dear John:

Thank you for the detailed information on the 1926-D double eagle. I note that you expect to have the coin for inspection in

the near future, and without commitment of course, perhaps you could hold it long enough for us to check on it together when in New York next week.

With personal regards,

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

January 3, 1955

Dear John:

Enclosed is a list of Corteau's pamphlets which are needed for reference. Should you come across any of these or know of their whereabouts I know you will keep us in mind. Both [C.J.] Edgar and [Frank] Katen so far have not been productive.

With best wishes for the New Year,

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

April 5, 1955

Dear Charles:

Of the batch of cents and nickels sent on approval some time ago my son has kept only the 1913-D and 1916-S pennies at $8.50 and $7.50 respectively. To round out the transaction, which has been pending overly long, he has asked me to include a check for $16.

With personal regards,

Sincerely yours,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb
P.S. Congratulations and best wishes to you both—indeed to the triumvirate [the latter reference to the presence of Walter Breen on the staff].

May 4, 1955

Dear Sirs:

Enclosed is my check for $96.52 in payment for the following three coins [silver dollars]: 1892-CC $10, 1882-CC $5, 1881-CC $5.

Yours very truly,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

May 12, 1955

Dear John:

I have had a chance to check the 1949 [Canadian] specimen set acquired recently and I think you should know that the nickel and the cent appear by comparison to be Uncirculated only. This does not mean that I want to return the coins, but I do want you to try to find me two better specimens to replace the unsatisfactory coins.

However, I would like to return the case to you for a credit, since as you pointed out, it does not match the set, nor does it, as I subsequently realized, qualify for a 1911 set, since it was remade to make place for the dollar. In other words, it is neither fish, flesh, nor good red herring.

Looking forward to seeing you before sailing.

Sincerely yours,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

August 22, 1955

Dear John:

At the office this morning I found the bill for the half dollar for which you gave us a credit of $8.50 yesterday. It is not surprising that in the hurly burly of yesterday's long session I missed the mark by "one buck" (in my favor). I am accordingly enclosing the dollar bill to straighten out our account.

More important and most disappointing is the situation that confronts me today with the Nike site problem next door. The Army has put on the heat and a decision must be made this week. My plans will not gel until after the meeting this afternoon, but it looks very much as if I shall be Washington bound tonight instead of heading for Omaha [where the ANA Convention was scheduled to be held].

Should such be the case I count on you to keep in touch with us by phone collect, not only to give us an account of the convention, but to let us know of any items of special interest you may be able to unearth.

I leave tonight for New York and Washington.

I note that [James] Kelly offers an Extremely Fine 1890-CC double eagle at $90. If he has it at the convention you might like to compare it with the one you left with us at $115.

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

August 22, 1955

(Telegram)

MR. CHARLES WORMSER HOTEL FONTENELLE
OMAHA NEBRASKA

REGRET WILL NOT BE AT [ANA] CONVENTION BUT TWO EMERGENCY MEETINGS ARE KEEPING ME EAST OF MISSISSIPPI -STOP- HAD GOOD WEEKEND VISIT WITH JOHN -STOP- REGARDS

NORWEB

October 31, 1955

Dear Mrs. Norweb:

The Philadelphia convention [of the Middle Atlantic Numismatic Association] was a very successful one, but was rather trying.

We managed to get the 1914 sovereign for you at $130. While this price is very attractive, the coin does have a little edge damage, even though brilliant Uncirculated. Therefore, after examination of the piece, you may feel free to return it.

Frankly, I think of the price, and in view of the fact that I have personally never seen another, I would keep it. Should we ever obtain another one, there is no reason why we cannot exchange it for you. Should we obtain another one at a lower figure we will be happy to exchange it gratis. I discussed this coin with John Pittman, who stated that he has only seen one in addition to this one.

Please tell the ambassador that the 1803 half dime was on consignment to [Charles] French at $155, at least that is what French said. I told French I would give him $135 for it (thinking to bill the ambassador $140). Since French did not respond, I would suggest forgetting about it.

I saw nothing else of interest for you except an Uncirculated 1795 half dollar [which was offered at that event by Robert Batchelder, and which was subsequently purchased by Q. David Bowers] which we would have had to bill you at $300. This seemed somewhat extravagant also.

All of us are looking forward to seeing you (and we hope the ambassador again), next week.

Very best personal regards,

Very sincerely,
John J. Ford, Jr.

November 3, 1955

Dear John:

Here is my check for $130 for the 1914 Canadian sovereign. It is good to have it in the collection and know eventually we can hope for a sounder specimen. As regards to the 1803 half dime, we will just scratch it, as there are many more interesting items on the want list.

Could the 1795 half dollar be the one I saw at the sale at a counter near New Netherlands? I forget the type, but it was beautiful. Although it was priced considerably under $300, it was still too high. In this we are in complete agreement.

One other item to mention in the hope that you may come up with a suggestion—the 1904-O eagle I bought from Mr. Donner was a mistake. It is already in the collection, and from New Netherlands, so recent it had not even been entered. Please send me his address as I would like to return the coin.

My outstanding impression of the Philadelphia sale was the varied prices at which American gold is being offered. So wide is

the range for the same type of material that obviously one must wait a while until the market levels off. Donner I find was on the high side, and happily I was restricted in my buying. As an indication of the great latitude in prices, at the Peake Sale we bought the 1911-D eagle at $72.50 (your estimated price) only to find the same coin in equal condition quoted at Philadelphia at $46!

All being well I hope to be in New York with Mrs. Norweb for the latter part of next week.

Regards to you both,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

November 8, 1955

Dear John:

My friend tells me that his organization is not interested in the New Mexican bar. Historically it has merit, but the price is far beyond their means and/or their degree of interest. . . .

Sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

November 28, 1955

Dear John:

Many thanks for the message about the "assembly job" of the 1911-1912 Canadian set. I suspect some shenanigans, but do not count on out and out faking in view of the "original case" statement. I wonder what should be done by the publication itself in such cases of rank misrepresentation.

And now to a query. Please turn to the Mehl catalogue—sale of October 25—Lots 262 and 263. These are similar to specimens recently purchased through New Netherlands. Number 262 went at $560 and No. 263 at $235. Mehl indicates they are both originals, but the prices which they fetched would not seem to support this. Perhaps you know of the two Mehl items and would like to have some comment for the files.

I note that Katen's List No. 27 offers the *Coin Collector's Journal* 1934-1954 bound, for $150. We have enjoyed so much the odd copies you have given us of late that I am tempted to take the plunge, but would like your opinion as to their value.

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

December 8, 1955

Dear John:

Many thanks for your informative letter of the 2nd [a copy of which does not survive in the files]. Apparently the 1852 [perhaps here the reference should have been to 1851] original silver dollar can have the date either high or "medium high" as described by Mehl. It was on this point that I needed enlightenment—the suggestion about the return of the coins was wasted.

I shall be guided by your helpful remarks as to the bound set; also as to the 1921 double eagle.

We can talk about the "interesting" Christmas present when in New York next week—the 13th, 14th, and 15th.

With personal regards,

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

December 23, 1955

Dear Charles:

For some days I have been intending to write to you about the 1937 Canadian set which I recently got at New Netherlands. I would like a little more time to compare this set with another set of this date, since there seems to be a doubt if any Proofs were made that year.

A letter from a collector friend says, "In 1937, 1,295 milled edge specimen sets in dull Proof were struck in addition to the regular coinage, and sold in cases." On the other hand the Mint states that no Proofs have ever been issued other than the Matte Proof sets of 1908.

What I am trying to determine is if the set you are offering is one of the 1,295 referred to as being in "dull Proof." This is something new to me and the coins in question are certainly not Matte Proofs, but have more or less a polished field with a matte relief. They are not in the class of say the 1887 Royal Mint Proofs, but are also quite different from the run of the main issue. It seems to me that the explanation is that these sets were struck on hand presses and individually handled.

In any event I will write to you again as soon as I have the other set for comparison. Meanwhile, we have had several pleasant Christmas thoughts from New Netherlands.

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

February 28, 1956

Dear Ambassador and Mrs. Norweb:

I am still at home, not cataloguing, but proofreading, which is a lot worse, if that is possible. There are times I wish that my catalogue standards were a lot lower, so I could enjoy putting them together more, but I can't help myself.

It was good to talk to you both last week, and I have at hand the ambassador's letter of the 20th. I hope that this quick note will catch up with you, as I haven't your March 1st address handy.

Am writing the Kagin boys re what dimes they might have for you (via us of course, no names mentioned), but have little hope of real success. Their 1873-CC has arrows, and the 1894-S overpriced. They do have a worn 1894-S (the only one out of the 24 struck known so), which probably can be bought right. We ok'd as kosher for them, and will stand behind it. While it wouldn't fit in with your wanting the best, it is juicy from the standpoint that it is real, and not a "piece de caprice" like the 1913 Liberty Head nickel 1884 and 1885 trade dollars, etc. To my mind, circulation adds to that particular coin.

Will not hustle after them for half dimes, particularly of the 1802, as Mrs. Black has the finest known, and when she sells, we sell, and you get. Since she has been very close to making a move for the last two years, we might get action any time. There are some real nice halves, quarters, and dimes, as well as a few "gem" Uncirculated half dimes in this Clarke offering that you can use. Abe [Kosoff] will have 440 lots large cents, 47 lots of half cents.

Later this week I will send down a complete set of page proofs for our sale. Please mark up any lot that you want info on, and we can sit down and go over it when you come up.

The boxes, book, and other info, etc. that the ambassador wanted will be handled by Charles M. Wormser (I hope). If not, we can square away when you get to New York. Have all kinds of deals, etc. on the fire, but all can wait until next month or May or something.

Will bet a deluxe steak dinner (this is for real, not like earlier bets) that you do not have a true 1796/5 half dime. Loser pays off in Chicago (at that trick place behind the Congress). Any takers?

Best to you both,
John J. Ford, Jr.

March 30, 1956

Dear Ambassador Norweb:

We have the Canadian and Newfoundland coins returned together with your Very Fine 1889 Canadian 25-cent. I have not checked out the returned coins as yet, but assume that everything is in order. I have looked at the 1889 quarter however.

You know that I do not generally find fault with your condition grading. I would call the piece sent Fine to Very Fine only, which means it is between Fine-15 and VF-20. Condition on the 1889 coins is a very important factor. We can give you a $50 allowance on the coin sent us; if it were VF-25 or 30 (a nice VF) we could go to $75. I hope that you will find this satisfactory.

JOHN J. FORD, JR.
Numismatist
176 HENDRICKSON AVE.
ROCKVILLE CENTRE, L.I., N.Y.

February 28, 1956

Amb. & Mrs. R. H. Norweb
Jupiter Island Club
Hobe Sound, Fla.

Dear Amb. & Mrs. Norweb:

I'm still at home, not cataloging, but proof reading, which is alot worse, if that is possible. There are times I wish that my catalog standards were alot lower, so I could enjoy putting them together more, but I can't help myself.

It was good to talk to you both last week, and I have at hand the Ambassador's letter of the 20th. I hope that this quick note will catch up with you, as I haven't your March 1st address handy.

Am writing the Kagin boys re what Dimes they might have for you (via us of course, no names mentioned), but have little hope of real success. Their '73 "CC" has arrows, and the '94 "S" overpriced. They do have a worn '94 "S" (the only one out of the 24 struck known so), which probably can be bought right. We OK'd it as kosher for them, and will stand behind it. While it wouldn't fit in with your wanting the best, it is juicy from the standpoint that it is real, and not a "piece de caprice" like the '13 Liberty Head Nickel, '84 and '85 Trades, etc. To my mind, circulation adds to that particular coin.

Will not hustle after them for Half Dimes, particularly the 1802, as Mrs. Black has the finest known, and when she sells, we sell, and you get. Since she has been very close to making a move for the last two years, we might get action anytime. There are some real nice Halves, Quarters and Dimes, as well as a few "gem" Unc. Half Dimes in this Clarke offering that you can use. Abe will have 440 lots of L. Cents, 47 lots of H. Cents.

Later this week I will send down a complete set of page proofs for our sale. Please mark any lot that you want info on, and we can sit down and go over it when you come up.

The boxes, book and other info, etc. that the Ambassador wanted will be handled by C.M.W. (I hope). If not, we can square away when you get to N.Y. Have all kinds of deals, etc. on the fire, but all can wait until next month or May or something.

Will bet a de-luxe Steak dinner (this is for real, not like earlier bets) that you do not have a true 1796/5 H. Dime. Loser pays off in Chicago (at that trick place behind the Congress). Any taker's?

Best to you both,

John J. Ford, Jr.

Letter from John J. Ford, Jr. to Ambassador and Mrs. Norweb, dated February 28, 1956. In this long and chatty letter, Ford updates the Norwebs on what coins are to be offered from various sources in the near future. Ford's final comment, regarding the 1796/5 half dime overdate, is intriguing. The Norweb Collection contains a superb 1796/5 half dime, but without pedigree notes. Did Ford have to pay off his bet?

A new invoice will be mailed to you based upon this, and if not all right, please let us know at once.

Next time you are in town I will get together with you and see if we have some other British and North American material. Why not bring along the coins you have and wish to improve, so we can compare them on the spot? However, this is not necessary. Any arrangement is all right with us.

With best personal regards to Mrs. Norweb and your good self in which all join,

Sincerely,
John J. Ford, Jr.
P.S.: I have picked up three Canadian Proofs which I am holding for you. Must get to church as this is Good Friday.

April 3, 1956

Dear John;

The second paragraph of your letter of the 30th calls to mind that famous phrase, *de gustibus non est disputandum*—and so it is with coin conditions. In any event, it is considerable of an exaggeration to say that there is $70 difference between the two coins.

We shall be in New York in about a week's time—the 12th to be exact—and look forward to seeing you at that time, when we can go over the Canadian Proofs, the 1921 double eagle, and review the prospects of the Paquet piece.

Sincerely yours,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

Walter Breen represented the Norwebs at Abe Kosoff's sale of the Thomas Melish Collection, held in conjunction with the Central States Numismatic Society Convention. An invoice dated May 5, 1956 totaled $856.50, plus 5% commission for bidding, for a total of $899.33. Among the items purchased were the following: Lot 1940, 1818 half eagle, Uncirculated $105; Lot 2004, 1844 half eagle, Uncirculated, $34; Lot 2063, 1852 half eagle, Uncirculated, $27.50; Lot 2067, 1853 half eagle Uncirculated $32.50; Lot 2072, 1854 half eagle, Uncirculated $32.50; Lot 2096, 1858 half eagle, Uncirculated $47.50; Lot 2122, 1864-S half eagle, Uncirculated $75; Lot 2166, 1880 half eagle Proof, $90; Lot 2173, 1880-CC half eagle, Uncirculated $32.50; Lot 2194, 1883 half eagle, Proof $90; Lot 2206, 1886 half eagle, Proof $90; Lot 2217, 1888 half eagle, Proof $112.50; and Lot 2223, 1891 half eagle, Proof $87.50. On the invoice, John J. Ford, Jr. appended the following note: "Suggest washing of the Proofs in clear ammonia and bicarbonate!"

May 8, 1956

Dear Charles & John:

Enclosed is my check for $1,029.33 [representing the auction invoice plus another invoice]. Many thanks to Walter Breen for his help both in selecting and then bidding on these coins. . . .

Very Sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

June 29, 1956

Dear Mrs. Norweb:

This is just to confirm my conversation with you this morning in which we plan to get together on Thursday, and probably Friday, July 26th and 27th.

At that time, I am going to tout you on the various items held for you and the Ambassador, the Gaskill large cent collection, and the collection of Canadian paper. Also, at that time I hope to have the rare colonials we have been discussing. On the other hand, I do hope that we can recreate here a trading forum reminiscent of Cleveland. In other words, it will be highly advantageous for both of us, if you can move out of some duplicates and move in some material you need.

I have written both [Horace] Brand and Mike [Zeddies] trying to set up an operation commencing Monday, August 27th. [Brand and Zeddies were selling Horace Brand's share of the Virgil M. Brand estate.] If this falls through, due to Brand's intransigence, perhaps we can carry on our horse trading, in case we don't wrap it up the day you leave New York in July for the north woods.

Our new *Numisma*, now at the printers, contains quarter and half eagles. In the faint possibility that you might need one or more of these, I am enclosing our original manuscript herewith (we always try and give you first crack!).

Off to the foothills!!

Very best personal regards in which all join.

Sincerely,
John J. Ford, Jr.

September 24, 1956

Dear John:

Enclosed is your letter [a copy of which does not survive in the files] with my comments which are self-explanatory. The prices as you see went well above estimates. The reference to M.K. of course is to Mike Kolman, who was very active in bidding for top material, but he let me down on a few of the items in which I had an interest. I refrained from bidding, with a feeling that I could get them from him afterwards (as we had talked over here in Cleveland before the sale) but unfortunately when I tried to get the items from him after the sale he said that he had bought them for a friend. This did not ring too true, as obviously the friend and he were sitting side by side exchanging bids, just as Kosoff and Kaplan did in the Cairo sale.

The items marked in red are those that I finally managed to get. But the "sleepers" stood out like beacon lights to the fraternity, and bidding for them was proportionate . . . Remember also in looking over my notations that many of the items you wanted were not in the condition described. This is especially true of 434 and 993. . . .

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

October 19, 1956

Dear John:

Many thanks for the offer of the 1851 double eagle. The example in the collection is Uncirculated and was bought from Morgenthau.

The 1856 eagle, brilliant Uncirculated, we would like to have at $47.50. . . .

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

March 26, 1957

Dear John:

Returning to the house yesterday I found on my desk the splendid presentation copy of [Grover C.] Criswell's new publication on Confederate notes. There is a note inside saying that it was sent at your suggestion and with your compliments, and for this we are indeed appreciative. It will add materially to the interest of our collection in this field—a collection which some day I hope you will see. Strangely enough, the bulk of it was picked up many years ago in South America.

We look forward to meeting you Monday afternoon, say around two o'clock.

Very sincerely yours,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

September 4, 1957

Dear John:

This is the first chance I have had to go over the list of coins picked up at [the ANA Convention in] Philadelphia. In spite of the confusion the coins themselves checked out exactly. On the other hand there are several discrepancies as noted on the enclosed statement. It was my understanding that the prices on the

envelopes were the prices quoted. You will remember our going over this in connection with the coins from Spink. . . .

The Hamilton (Ontario) meeting was worthwhile only because of the opportunity to visit the Chateau de Ramezey and to go over Mr. Bowman's records in details. The sale itself had little to offer in the way of coins except for a few that were bought up at unusual prices for your Texas client. The paper money offered created little active bidding; perhaps because the bulk of it was unattractive as to condition.

I trust you have by now fully recovered from the impact of Philadelphia.

Very sincerely yours,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

March 19, 1958

My Dear Ambassador and Mrs. Norweb:

It was indeed pleasant to see the two of you over last weekend and hope your trip home was accomplished without any untoward event.

The books are going forward under separate cover, and although I did my best to find "a slow boat to China," I think they will arrive faster than with such a vehicle.

Walter Breen has made the following report regarding the Boston auction [held by Mayflower Coin Auctions on March 15th]:

Lot 1003 was not a gem, had been cleaned, it was a weak strike, and fetched $17. We had only gone to $15 for you [the piece was described as a 1907 brilliant Uncirculated quarter dollar, estimated at $9].

Lot 1005, we did not place any bid on as the coin was only Very Fine and yet it sold for $23. [Described as a 1909 brilliant Uncirculated quarter dollar.]

Lot 1027, we were the underbidders as it was a nice piece, but when it went to $33, we felt it was high enough. [Described as a 1930 brilliant Uncirculated quarter dollar, estimated at $8.]

Hope this satisfies you, and you will think we did right.

Warm regards to the two of you,

Sincerely,
Charles M. Wormser

June 23, 1958

Dear John:

I was sorry not to be at your sale the other evening, just for the fun of it, though as you know there was little of interest in it for us. Sometime let me know what the 1894-S dime went for. On this score I was mistaken or confused. We were an underbidder when this coin was last offered for sale.

I shall be glad if you will keep in mind my interest in the Washington series, especially the patterns.

I notice a number of the Proof cents you offered recently were in the Bement 1916 sale at $28 to $32.

Very sincerely yours,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

October 8, 1958

Dear John:

In going through the pioneer gold section of the *Standard Catalogue* the other day I noticed that the $5 Bechtler had been added. Is this the piece that Jim Kelly had at the ANA sale in 1956—and if so do you have any details about this piece and how it came to have the obverse of C. Bechtler and the reverse of A. Bechtler?

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

December 10, 1958

Dear John:

I want to remind you about sending me a copy of the Seaby letter, even if expurgated. [A reference to B.A. Seaby, Ltd., well-known London dealers.] Also I neglected when in your office the other day to order a copy of Dr. Sheldon's new book on large cents.

In your forthcoming sale Lot 103, half cent of 1857, not Gilbert-1, might be of interest if you feel it would be an acceptable addition to my wife's half cent collection. I am looking for little items like this as surprise Christmas presents.

Other lots in which my son might be interested are 369, 379, 388, 419, 437, and 546. As for myself, Lot 737, which I missed at one of your sales under rather unusual circumstances. Perhaps you could check this for me so that when I call Friday you can give me some estimates. [My son] Henry is especially interested in Lots 369, 419, 437, and 546.

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

December 16, 1958

Dear Ambassador Norweb:

Enclosed you will find a check in the amount of $275 for Lot 557 (recently returned to us) as part of your purchase of material from the November 28th Glendining Sale [in London].

Also you will find photostats of the original Seaby bill to me and Alan Rayner's letter to me of November 28th.

You will receive one of the first copies of *Penny Whimsy* available. I have forwarded your request to my newly formed "Ford Numismatic Publications."

As discussed with you on the telephone, I tried to interpret your letter of December 10 in regards to our sale of last Saturday. Here is how we made out:

Lot 103. On the floor for $105. This I thought was too high to top.

Lot 369. Bought for $77.50. This we have missed in too many earlier sales—the same coin, to pass up again.

Lot 379. This went to a book bidder for $100 against as $165 bid. I did not like the coin well enough, in spite of our having owned it, to top this figure.

Lot 388. Bought for you at $240. I grabbed this after Lot 387 went for $640 on the floor.

Lot 419. Bought for $47.

Lot 437. Bought for $20.

Lot 546. This I passed up; it went to a floor buyer for $60. Your limit was $50 to $55.

Lot 737. Believe it or not, this went to another room bidder for $250.

I did the very best I could for you, Ambassador, and I am sorry that I could not have done better. You can tell Mrs. Norweb that her silver-center cent went for a fantastic $2,300. Since I traded a far superior piece for hers, I wonder what it would bring? I guess regal descriptions and research pay off!

Please permit me to wish both you and Mrs. Norweb the most happy Christmas and the very best for 1959.

Sincerely yours,
John J. Ford, Jr.

December 17, 1958

Dear John:

I am off to Washington and may come by way of New York, but before leaving want to acknowledge the 1805 quarter. Your surmise is right that this variety is already in the collection. What we lack is the 5 Berry variety.

Incidentally, what did the piece sell for at your last sale?

In haste,
R. Henry Norweb

Eric P. Newman

Eric P. Newman, prominent American numismatist and scholar, has written many research articles over the years, earning in

the process more Heath Literary Awards, given by the American Numismatic Association, than any other recipient.

January 28, 1954

My Dear Mr. Newman:

I only hope you can appreciate my feelings when I found your letter and coins on my desk this afternoon with the letter dated December 28th. There is so much in that letter which I would like to take up with you but have only a brief amount of time before leaving for Egypt and the King Farouk Sale. However, here are some quick jottings which may be of some interest until my return the first week in April.

I have nothing in the Vermonts that has not been illustrated in the *Standard Catalogue*, except the Ryder-5 with sun on the left. All that I have, believe it or not, are two examples or perhaps I should say one and a half because one is so bad that I am thoroughly ashamed of it.

In the Connecticuts I have five which are unlisted in Miller or it may be I have slipped up in their identification. Anyhow I believe you would be interested in seeing them.

As to the New Hampshires I have two, one with large harp and the other with small harp, not illustrated in the *Standard* but illustrated in Crosby.

In the Immune Columbia series I have the very rare one with Nova Constelatio, blunt rays, which is not listed in Crosby and of which only one other has been recorded. That was in the Ely Sale at the turn of the century. I strongly suspect this coin is the Ely coin. The ANS has photographs of it as I left it with them for study.

As to the Confederatios I have the small circle of stars and also the large circle of stars, neither of which is a Bolen as they also have been photographed at the ANS.

I have an Immunis Columbia of 1787, the regular one, and another one about which I have been dubious. The 1786 Immunis Columbia I am perfectly sure is definitely a counterfeit or a forgery as the weight is all wrong.

Finally I do want to tell you that I have three Fugios which do not correspond to anything in your excellent pamphlet and on which I would be very glad to have your opinion.

Having enumerated all these coins I am truly sorry that I can not send you any of them at this moment nor even make a rubbing. This morning I took them all down to the bank for safe keeping until my return and will not have time to get at them until after I come home. I am writing the ANS to give you any photographs you may wish, so please feel free to write them.

When I return I do hope it may be possible for you to stop in Cleveland and take a look at some of my problem children. You can rest assured that I will be more than delighted to send you anything you want to see, but I am equally sure that every letter we exchange is going to make me pull out of my boxes coins which may touch on your field.

I have been most interested in looking at the imitation halfpence and feel reasonably sure that I do have a 1776 much like those you have enclosed.

I expect to be in London from March 15th to April 1st doing some work over at the British Museum on some of these early Colonials. If there is anything that I can look up; for you or have photographed please let me know as I shall be delighted to be of any assistance my limited knowledge allows. Any letter addressed care of Thomas Cook & Son, Inc. London will reach me

Again many thanks for your letter and for the coins which I am herewith returning and hoping that we may have many coin fests together.

Sincerely yours,
Mrs. R. Henry Norweb

July 20, 1954

My Dear Mr. Newman:

The photographs of coins made in the Museum have arrived and I am enclosing a copy herewith. Whether or not they are of interest to you I cannot be sure but I thought you might like to have them.

I have been exceedingly busy cataloguing Canadian tokens especially of the Tennant Collection. These I wanted in order before going to Canada in late August for the Canadian Coin Convention. Are you planning to be in Cleveland for the ANA Convention and if so would you let me know as I could spend a very profitable hour with you. There is so much I want to learn.

Sincerely yours
Mrs. R. Henry Norweb

October 4, 1954

Dear Mrs. Norweb:

It was very nice to hear from you and it is a pleasure to tell you that the Nova Eborac which you sent is in lovely condition and has not been tooled or reworked, in my opinion. The weakness in the drapery is due to the striking but the other points you mention are quite normal. I have an Uncirculated red specimen with which I have compared it and yours is bolder in a number of respects. My suggestion is that if the price is reasonable you should have no hesitation in buying it. I would like, very much, to have a picture of its obverse and, therefore, am retaining it in the hope of sending it to the American Numismatic Society for that purpose. Would you be kind enough to give me permission to do so if you buy it.

You asked about the Fugio 2-C and I believe I have only seen three. I did not attempt to describe the rarity of the various dies as that is too often the basis for severe mistakes.

I hope that your threat to wander through St. Louis to see some of my things was an intention more than a desire and I want you to know that you will be most welcome.

I have just completed a write-up of Virginia halfpence and would like to know if you would be kind enough to send me your Virginia halfpence so that I can check their die varieties before I complete my work. I would also like to know if you have the 1774 Virginia shilling in your collection. It would not be necessary for me to see it. I would also be interested in knowing if you have a 1774 Virginia piece in copper. If you could cooperate with me with respect to the foregoing, I will be most appreciative and return the coins promptly.

My book is coming along fairly well but the work involved is enormous. I have had a steady correspondence with the Harvard Law School Library, the New York Historical Society, and a group of others and I have assembled almost all the information which I need. The book is half written and I am struggling to complete the second half.

I hear the convention in Cleveland was a wild one. I have not been to a coin convention in 15 years and it will take considerable pressure to get me there.

Looking forward to seeing your fine collection whenever that can be arranged, and with kindest personal regards.

Sincerely yours,
Eric P. Newman

February 21, 1955

Dear Mrs. Norweb:

Your letter of January 20, 1955 is at hand, and I have been out of town a good part of the time since.

I will be delighted to see you around the middle of March and suggest that you let me know your plans as early as you can. I will expect you and your husband to come over to our home for dinner and an evening as well as spending such time as may be mutually convenient during whatever number of days you would like to visit.

I wish to thank you for making the exchange of the Virginia halfpence and it is most appreciated.

When you come to St. Louis I would like for you to bring your plantation halfpence, your Vermont cents, all of your New York cents, your Immunis Columbia and Immune Columbia and all Confederatios. Anything else you would like to bring, such as

some of your wonderful Washington items, please feel free to do so.

I have a coin on approval from C.J. Dockhus which I believe you should buy. It is a Machin's Mill coin and will be listed in the *Standard Catalogue* in due course. If you want it please send your check for $3.00 to him at 3522 E. Thompson Street, Philadelphia 34, Penn.

I notice that you were nice enough to appoint me on the committee for American coins at ANS and would like to discuss with you certain thoughts I have in connection therewith.

My kindest personal regards to you and your husband.

Sincerely yours,
Eric P. Newman

May 10, 1955

My Dear Eric:

We are just about set to leave and as you asked for information of our trip, here it is.

We sail on the *Elizabeth* May 18th, will be staying at Claridge's in London probably returning on the *Elizabeth* June 9th. I shall be delighted to get in touch with any contacts you may have and to do anything I can for you there.

Sincerely yours,
Mrs. R. Henry Norweb

August 22, 1955

Dear Mrs. Norweb:

My wife and I have just returned from a delightful trip to Europe. We drove through Yugoslavia, finally got back to London to indulge in a little culture, and to do a little coin research. I visited the British Museum and was delighted to see many of their wonderful pieces. Of course I made the rounds of the coin dealers and enjoyed meeting many of them for the first time.

This is, therefore, merely a renewal of our attempt to try to get together, since I will not be at the convention, so any time the spirit moves you do not hesitate to let me know.

I purchased an item at Seaby's, in London, with the thought you might want it, but please do not feel, for a moment, that you should buy this coin if it doesn't interest you. I already had one and it occurred to me that you might enjoy one. The coin is a 1774 English gold sovereign, in Proof condition, in the original case; the price being 13 pounds 10 shillings. The reason I think the coin is interesting is because the obverse die on the Virginia shilling, a specimen of which you have, is apparently the obverse die of a British gold sovereign of 1774. It has always befuddled me as to why the obverse of the Virginia shilling does not contain the word "Rex" and the 1774 Virginia reverse does not either. I have concluded that since only one 1774 Virginia reverse was made, and no Virginia obverses were unbroken then, they merely used one of the obverses for a sovereign to strike the Virginia shilling. You may already have such a sovereign.

In any event, rejuvenate your ideas on the visit.

Sincerely yours,
Eric P. Newman

September 7, 1955

My Dear Eric:

I was delighted to receive your letter of August 22nd and to hear something of your trip to London. I know it must have been lots of fun and that you brought back a great quantity of knowledge probably as well as coins.

Thank you for the English gold sovereign of 1774. I am delighted to have it and think it was exceedingly kind of you to think of me. Do I owe you $37.80? This may not be correct as I do not know the actual rate which you were using. Please tell me if it comes to more.

Indeed I certainly shall rejuvenate my ideas on coming to St. Louis. We did not go the the Omaha convention but instead I went to Chicago and spent three days in a bank vault looking at Brand coins. What treasures Virgil collected!

Again many thanks for the sovereign.

Sincerely yours,
Mrs. R. Henry Norweb

January 22, 1957

My Dear Mr. Newman:

My wife and I have found your monograph on Virginia coinage [published by the American Numismatic Society, New York] a valued contribution to real numismatics, and I congratulate you on a well presented publication.

Since the monograph will be a permanent part of our library I would like to have it bound, but before sending it to the bindery I would greatly appreciate your kindness in autographing it for my wife.

I hope that some day our paths will cross, numismatically or otherwise.

Sincerely yours,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

January 25, 1957

Dear Mr. Norweb:

Thank you for your nice comments concerning my recent monograph on Virginia coinage. It is particularly gratifying to receive encouragement of this sort from real numismatists and it encourages one to continue research.

I have autographed and am sending the monograph under separate cover.

I look forward to the day when I can see some of the interesting things your wife has and when I can have the pleasure of showing you both some of the interesting things which I have.

My wife and I are still bubbling from a most exciting trip to Egypt and East Africa. We went on a safari so that all of the animals could have a good look at us. I think you might enjoy our pictures in spite of the fact that you have been practically everywhere yourself.

Kindest personal regards.

Sincerely yours,
Eric P. Newman

June 18, 1957

My Dear Eric:

The end of April I was in England, otherwise I can assure you I would have been at the Convention in St. Louis with my Massachusetts silver to show you.

No, you have not hurt my feelings by telling me that the Noe-19 Oak Tree sixpence is a forgery. Once I saw Baldwin's piece I felt pretty sure that it was and when I saw a second one in London it became a certainty.

As to the New England shilling with obverse Noe-1 and with the so-called new obverse I can have two opinions. There is something intangible I do not like about it and I am not sure myself whether it is its thickness or color. Dick Picker feels very strongly that the reverse is a new die but I am not convinced. I have seen a slipped punch which did give the same variation as from reverse Noe-1.

You asked me if I have anything new or interesting in the Massachusetts silver line, and the answer is I do not know what you call new. Since there are always interesting things where coins are concerned, I am enclosing a list of the ones that I have. If you want the weights of any of these do let me know as soon as you can, as at the end of the week I will be going down to the vault to pull out the coins that I want to weigh.

What are you doing this summer? As soon as I get cleared away with guests and meetings I am free and am tempted to get on a train for St. Louis with my coins and spend an evening with you.

Very sincerely
Mrs. R. Henry Norweb

April 7, 1958

My Dear Eric:

Naturally I am completely excited over your proposed trip here. We are leaving this week and will be back the end of May. Should any change of plans occur it would be to return a week earlier.

If the first week in June is not too late for you it would be a very good time to come. Why do you not plan to be here Saturday and Sunday staying with us at the house and plying your trade Monday. If you let me know in advance I will have everything at the house for you to look at at your leisure.

Looking forward to your visit.

Sincerely yours
Mrs. R. Henry Norweb

November 15, 1960

My Dear Eric:

Yes, I do own the Brasher doubloon you refer to in your letter of November 10th. I am rather sure that John Ford had it photographed at the Society before turning it over to me. If he did not I will take it to New York in a few weeks and have a photograph done.

You are quite correct in saying it is a beautiful punch. All that I have been able to find out about the EB punches is that there are two very similar. The one I have has a dot left of the upright of B where the cross piece joins. This same punch is found on the English piece in the Society. I also have in my possession the second EB punch on an English piece without the dot. It is not quite the same size nor the same shape but very similar letters. This coin I have on approval from Spink but am not keeping it. Mr. Liddell of Spink is arriving here tomorrow, Wednesday, and will stay until Friday morning. He will be taking the piece back with him to New York. Should you want to examine it you had better telephone him here at Liberty 1-4800 and make your arrangements or telegraph him and if he has left I would forward the message. At this moment I do not know where he will be staying in New York.

As to the Connecticut cents I have turned them over to my son to work on. After the rush of Christmas is over I will get them back and list them. Sorry I cannot do it before.

Sincerely yours,
Mrs. R. Henry Norweb

February 28, 1961

My Dear Eric:

Just as I think I am squared away to work on coins the heavens open and everything happens. We had been in New York off and on for about a month and came home to influenza and the mother and father of a snow storm. The snow started Saturday night together with a thunder storm. The transformers on the pole were hit by lightning and then a tree crashed across all wires, putting the telephone out of commission as well. So we were without light for eighteen hours and no telephone until this morning, Tuesday. I still am without voice but I can write letters.

As to the Connecticut cents I will ask my son to send over the collection and make a list. This will not be before next week.

The Brasher doubloon we have is the Boyd specimen and the one referred to in the ANS Centennial number. I believe the ANS did photograph it but do you want something more? . . .

I am glad to see we still are together on the ANS Committee for United States coins. Wish we could do something constructive for the American section.

Sincerely yours,
Mrs. R. Henry Norweb

May 3, 1961

Dear Mrs. Norweb

Your letters are always so enthusiastic and kind but you forget me. Almost everyone in the United States has cooperated with respect to the Connecticut project but I have never had any action from you after my many requests. I know you have many more irons in the fire than the rest of us and have many more social affairs, solicitations, and other complications because of the size of your family and interests than those of us who lead the simple life. In any event can you get the Connecticut information off dead center?

Evelyn and I are planning a trip to Africa this summer visiting Nigeria, Ghana and Mali in West Africa and then driving ourselves for two weeks in South Africa. We are going to a Zulu fesitval which ought to be pretty lively.

In your past letter to me you indicated you were glad we are still together on the ANS Committee for United States coins and that you wished we could do something constructive for the American section. ANS, as you know, has a marvelous collection of Connecticut pieces and publishing a first-class book on the subject would be very constructive. I am working on a few other books, in addition, but the time for you to help me is now.

I hope you and your family are enjoying life to the fullest and look forward to seeing you whenever our paths can cross.

Most cordially yours,
Eric P. Newman

May 11, 1961

My Dear Eric:

Your letter of May 3rd was mild compared to what I would have written had the situation been reversed. I shall get off dead center. One of the reasons, not an excuse, for delay is undoubtedly my relative non-interest in Connecticut coins. Years ago I gave my collection to my son Henry who has done quite a bit of work on them. I am getting together the letters you have written on the subject and asking him to take action. Should you wish to write him directly his name and address is:

R. Henry Norweb, Jr.
18930 South Woodland Road
Cleveland, 22, Ohio

Another subject I would like to write you about is the Boyd Collection. When Fred Boyd died I wanted to make an offer to the estate for the whole collection. John Ford asked me not to as New Netherlands had done so much work they felt entitled to their cut. We came to an agreement that I would take all the Western Hemisphere pieces with the exception of the Hard Times tokens and the Lincoln items. A price by lot, New York, Rosas, Woods, etc. would be established with the exception of the Massachusetts silver of which I needed only a few pieces. Over a year ago I went to their office and selected the coins. Three weeks ago John Ford sent me a box of what he called "oddments" ranging from New York to Washington and priced individually.

Sincerely yours,
Mrs. R. Henry Norweb

May 16, 1961

Dear Mrs. Norweb:

Your letter of May 11, 1961 with respect to the Boyd material is not a great surprise to me. I attempted to be a gentlemen with respect to the items I wanted to buy from the Boyd estate and I have not even been offered one coin. I had specific promises from John, too.

You might be interested to know that years ago I had the opportunity to buy the New England silver for $15,000 from the Clarke estate and out of respect for Fred Boyd I permitted him to have the first opportunity to buy it if he wished because I knew how disappointed he would be if he did not obtain it. He had been so nice to me I felt that as much as he wanted to buy that collection I should yield. Mrs. Boyd knows this. John Ford knows this. I only have promises from John. I have always been on a very friendly basis with Mrs. Boyd, yet, her attorney turned me down even on examining certain coins on which I wished to do research.

If you wish to, you may feel free to telephone me as there are

many more things I would say to you, informally. Thank you for being so frank with me.

My best to you and yours.

Sincerely yours,
Eric P. Newman

November 21, 1961

My Dear Eric:

I am just back from New York having made the talk at the American Numismatic Society. For me it is always impossible to tell whether a talk goes well or not. I have never been one to be able to "feel" my audience. Somehow I get wrapped up in the thread of what I am saying and just go along. There is no text to send you as I speak largely from notes with only enough jotted down in case I pull a mental blank.

Mr. Milbank was pleased with the talk or at least so he said, because it deviated from the more technical lectures which have been given and dealt with a side of coinage not usually considered by the numismatist.

Again with many thanks for your letter and I do wish that I could have seen you.

Sincerely yours,
Mrs. R. Henry Norweb

January 22, 1962

My Dear Eric:

Your letter of January 11th was sent on to me in New York where we have been for the last two weeks. When I have time I will get at the Virginia shilling which I hope means during the week. Incidentally how are the Connecticuts progressing?

May I congratulate you on your election to the Council of the American Numismatic Society. I am sure you will be a valuable addition.

Sincerely yours
Mrs. R. Henry Norweb

August 24, 1964

Dear Emery May:

To be fifty years an ANA member and a more vigorous collector than you were when you started is outstanding. Congratulations again and I'll be at your 75th if I can be wheeled there.

I appreciated so much the delightful hospitality of both of you at the club and the good fellowship which was generated that evening by the group. Your rejoinder to the remarks of the men was classic—full of your philosophy and enthusiasm. Thank you for including me in that stimulating group.

The key to our city is ready to be handed to you and Henry whenever you can come.

Don't worry about not answering all my queries promptly. I know I'll have your cooperation when I'm pressed for a publication.

Yours with mint lustre,
Eric P. Newman

January 13, 1966

Dear Eric:

You were greatly missed at last Saturday's meeting of the Council. Your letter and gift sparked a general discussion of the ways and means to expand the Society's activities. Because of my own interest and advocacy of this "new look," I feel it important for us to get together preferably before the next meeting in April. If there is any chance of New York being a common meeting ground, perhaps we can discuss this matter there. If not, we could at least review the whole situation some evening by long distance.

If anything is going to be done along the lines in which we are interested, I think it would have to be in the form of a crash program with you and I perhaps [Professor Theodore V.] Buttrey generating most of the ideas. Let me hear from you in due course.

My wife joins in personal best wishes.

Yours sincerely,
Henry Norweb

April 7, 1966

Dear Eric:

Some time ago, I wrote of an approach made by your friend Charles Johnson to Sawyer Mosser with a view to exploring the educational areas in which the ANS and ANA might usefully cooperate.

For your information, here is a pertinent part of a recent letter on this score from Mr. Johnson.

At this time, when things are pretty touchy at the Society, it is hardly the moment to stir up the animals, but any suggestions and comments would, of course, be grist to the mill.

With personal regards from us both,

Ever sincerely,
Harry Norweb

Copy of letter from Charles M. Johnson

March 29, 1966

Next, as to the copy of your letter of January 18th, addressed to John Pittman, regarding a closer liaison between ANA and ANS, I am at a loss to know why John has not answered this important letter or done anything with you about it. I am glad to learn that ANS has taken an initial step in the direction of working on this problem and named you to look into the matter.

As I recall ANA discussed this matter during our Board meeting last fall when I reported on a constructive visit I had with Sawyer Mosser. At that time our ANA Board was wholeheartedly behind the idea that greater cooperation was highly desirable and decided to explore the matter. Since most of our work is done through committees and since I live on the West Coast, we decided to have someone from the East, pursue the matter and asked John to do the job, which he assured us he would undertake. Apparently, this is where the matter rests.

For my part, and I believe I speak for the ANA, we are generally anxious to explore and develop ways in which our organizations can work together using existing facilities and personnel to accomplish various services and programs for the betterment of numismatics at the local, regional, and national levels. Specifically, it is not feasible to intelligently discuss such services and programs in this letter. I shall, however endeavor in the near future to organize my thoughts on this subject and submit them to you for consideration and perhaps an exchange of ideas, to see if we can come up with a few constructive suggestions to present to both our organizations for adoption.

Time is the essential element, and I find that with my daily work and my leisure time work on ANA's fundraising drive, building and plans committee, library and other activities, that I may not be able to accomplish all that should be done. However, you will hear from me soon, and I hope it will bear fruit.

May 6, 1966

Dear Henry:

You were nice enough to send me the comments of Charles Johnson with respect to a mutuality of interests between the ANS and ANA as to educational areas. I sincerely believe ANA and ANS should work more closely and I cannot understand why ANA is endeavoring to have a museum at their headquarters when ANS already performs this function. As to a library, I can understand the need of ANA service in this regard.

As to educational programs, they are now being used as an attendance-getter for local and regional club meetings and are more in the nature of entertainment than scholarship.

From information I have, I do not believe the ANA will back the Roosevelt University program and there are others who are disappointed at its outcome after all the effort that went into

making it attractive. This points even more to ANS doing the job properly.

With best wishes to you and Emery May.

Sincerely,
Eric P. Newman

September 9, 1968

Dear Eric:

Your prompt response is appreciated and helps by its timeliness to project my New York schedule in advance. You were right in assuming that Emery May will not be with me since it is less than three weeks since the operation and we count on another month before she is fully mobile.

In the light of your plans may I suggest that Evelyn and you join me at 12 or 12:15 at the apartment, 432 East 52nd Street, having luncheon downstairs at the River Club. From there it is exactly twenty minutes to the Society. This will give me very great pleasure and get us both out in ample time for the meeting. Your being there will be a stimulus for us all.

I shall be in New York about noon on the 12th if you will be good enough to call me at Eldorado 5-6161 or failing that leaving word with the answering service.

Ever my best in which Emery May most heartily joins. She is sorry, indeed, to have missed out.

Yours sincerely,
R. Henry Norweb

(Undated) Re: Silver Center Cent

Mrs. Norweb told me over the telephone today that her Silver Center Cent is the Parmelee specimen and that she has had it since about 1920. She said she also has the Parmelee piece which has the mixture. She told me she did not want this pedigree advertised but would resent the publication of false information and would not hesitate to write the newspaper or the Federal Trade Commission about it. She said there was nothing that could be done about the use of her name and mine in the advertising.

Eric P. Newman

October 10, 1978

My Dear Eric:

It was characteristic of you to write us such a charming letter. We do not feel that we have left the ANS but merely moved to a new room. We were delighted when Harry Bass wrote that he would propose at the next meeting that those going off the board should be made Honorary.

Needless to say Henry is sitting in a warm glow over his being elected to take his father's place.

Our best to you.

Gratefully yours,
Mrs. R. Henry Norweb

March 19, 1979

My Dear Eric:

On our return from Florida we heard of your having received the top award [the Huntington Award] of the ANS. We were delighted and agreeably surprised at the ANS having this much good sense. So often I think of you as a town crier of colonial days silently passing along dark streets, invisible but always there. A cry of warning then after a while the reassuring coming strong and steady, "All's well."

I do wish we could see you now and then as we still have a great interest in the ANS and will make it more active through Henry.

Again many congratulations. We are proud to call you friend.

As ever,
Mrs. R. Henry Norweb

Dear Emery May and Henry:

You were so kind to write me with respect to the Huntington Award. I do cherish it and if it were not for the opportunities which you and others had given me in letting me examine your pieces and in discussing matters with you, I would not have been able to do the necessary research.

As you noted, Evelyn and I went to Antarctica and enjoyed it to the fullest extent. You have seen most of the world and been stimulated by it and I hope your health enables you to continue it again. I note that you are wintering in Florida, so the brutal cold weather of home was only something to read about.

My kindest personal regards.

Sincerely,
Eric P. Newman

January 28, 1983

My Dear Eric:

It was a delightful look back in the past to read your letter. How many days of pleasure I have had collecting coins, no one will ever know. It is true I started in 1907 and have not stopped collecting even now. I just got a Tinca from Brazil which completes that set. Unfortunately, years creep on and don't give me much leeway.

I am glad you are doing a lot of writing because that is certainly your chief forte. I hope that you are finding coins for your collection as I know how you love them. My only new accomplishment is the publishing of English 17th Century tokens. When I had made the arrangement with Spink to do so the British Academy asked if they could not be the ones to put it in their sylloge and so there will be three volumes and an index for the whole thing when done. The first volume is supposed to come out in April of this year. It will be pleasant to know that this is true. Christopher Blunt has said that the information on the tokens is accumulated and plentiful and that the whole volumes together will form a definitive collection.

My love to all of you.

Emery May.

Richard Picker

Richard Picker maintained a business in buying and selling colonial and other early American coins and was active from the 1950s through the early 1980s. He did business from Box 33, Oakland Gardens Station, Flushing, New York, and by personal attendance at many coin conventions. He was considered to be an expert numismatist, and the contributions he made to the fund of technical knowledge were considerable, especially regarding American colonial and state coinage. Only a few of what must have been many letter and invoice copies remain in the Norweb files.

January 12, 1955

Dear Mr. Norweb:

I find that I must write this letter of explanation in regard to my business policies. There is no doubt about the fact that you are one of my more valued clients, and we do quite a bit of business together. It is for this reason that I have made certain concessions to you that I would not make to other people. I feel that I have been pricing my coins fairly to the best of my ability. In some cases, the prices may be over catalogue, but that only occurs when I have been forced to pay a high price to get a choice coin.

Everything that I offer to you is, of course, on approval, and I would much rather prefer that, in the future, you return anything that you feel is overpriced, and keep anything you feel you would like, at the net price.

Although I hope to see you before you leave for Florida, in the event that I do not, I would like to wish you and Mrs. Norweb an enjoyable vacation.

Very sincerely yours,
Richard Picker

January 18, 1955

My Dear Mr. Picker:

Before receipt of your favorable response to my telegram I was again underway. Here is my check for $600. Many thanks for your cooperation. At the same time I am returning the three Pine Trees originally sent Mrs. Norweb, since her examples are equally good.

With reference to your letter of the 12th, we are in complete agreement as to values, as you know from Mrs. Norweb's earlier letters. Anything we consider overpriced will be promptly returned. We hope however you will continue to submit material to us on an approval basis.

Sincerely yours,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

September 3, 1957

Dear Dick:

On looking through the coins that came in our absence I do not find the package from you containing the half cents bought at the Philadelphia sale.

Will you please look them up and send them on their way to the above address, together with an indication of what I owe you.

With regards,

Very sincerely yours,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

September 25, 1957

Dear Dick:

The coins have been found and my wife is writing to you about their remarkable oddity.

Meanwhile here is a check for the two half cents purchased from us at the Philadelphia convention.

with regards,

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

October 21, 1957

Dear Mrs. Norweb:

Enclosed are the coins that I have had aside to send you, in addition to a few acquisitions from the Boston convention. The 1822 half dime and 1831 dime are genuine Proofs and are so guaranteed. The 1822 quarter, though having a beautiful surface, I don't know whether or not it should be called a Proof. I am more inclined to think that it is a very nice first strike.

The new variety of 1806 quarter dollar was discovered by a friend of mine and given to me to sell on consignment. To my knowledge, it is the second one known. It has the obverse of Browning-6 but a new reverse die that Browning didn't describe at all. Breen wrote about discovering one like this in an article in the *Numismatic Scrapbook* in February 1954, but unfortunately did not show a photograph. The Mark Newby pieces are a few that you have not as yet seen. The two Washington items may be of interest to you, and since I acquired them both on trade, have left them unpriced, and am offering them to you on the same basis. These could all be used against the coins you are sending to me.

To date, I have not as yet received your coins, but if you sent them by express, that may account for the delay, for they cannot deliver to a post office box. When they arrive at the express office they will send me a card, and I will have to pick them up at the express office.

I have just been going through the Stack catalogue and see quite a bit of interesting material in the United States silver, as well as the half cent and colonials. I expect to go to the city during the week of October 28th and inspect the material. It would be helpful if I could receive a list of the items in which you may be interested before then, so that I might inspect them at the same time, and give you a report on them.

Kindest regards to you and Mr. Norweb,

Sincerely,
Richard Picker

October 23, 1957

Dear Dick:

I am returning all but the 1831 Proof dime of the United States pieces. My check for that is enclosed.

At the same time my wife has asked me to include the Washington and Mark Newby examples you enclosed, and she is writing you herself in this regard.

Sorry we couldn't do more business, but on the other hand it is nice to have these items already in the collection, that is except the 1806 quarter dollar new variety, which was unattractive.

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

July 8, 1958

Dear Dick:

Were we successful with the Washington pattern two-cent pieces at the Stack sale?

I was sorry we couldn't get together in connection with the Akron meeting, but we had 16 guests for the 4th of July—some 60 odd the day after—and house guests until this afternoon.

I hope to be at the New York apartment briefly next Monday.

Very sincerely yours,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

July 8, 1958

Dear Mrs. Norweb:

Thank you very much for your check which I found awaiting my return from the Akron convention. Enclose please find receipted bill for your purchases.

I was hoping that you and Mr. Norweb could have seen your way clear to drive down for a day or so. There is something that I would have liked to discuss with you. I will be leaving for the ANA Convention in Los Angeles on or about August 3rd, and have made a tentative appointment with Mr. [Horace] Brand, to stop in Chicago for a day or so, to see what he might have to offer. It was my thought that you and Mr. Norweb might meet me there, and the three of us could go over his coins. As you know, he keeps everything in bank vaults. In Chicago, it is in the Board of Trade Building, and what he considers coins of high rarity, such as the Brasher doubloon [which was subsequently sold to Robert Friedberg], the gold Fugio, etc., he keeps in Milwaukee. In addition to these coins (if they are still available), he did have some of the rare dates in the early United States gold field, and a Washington funeral medal shell in gold, as well as a number of other rare United States and colonial coins, including a Willow Tree sixpence and many foreign rarities.

If you feel that you would be interested in seeing any of these, I would be happy to work out the details for the meeting. Also, it would be almost necessary to plan on two days, since he will not transport coins from one vault to the other, and there are coins of interest in both Milwaukee and Chicago. In the event that you are not interested, I would appreciate it very much if you didn't mention to anyone that I plan to see him.

There is still a box of about 35 to 40 coins that I have aside for you in my safe, which I would like you to see, if possible, before the ANA Convention. If you are planning to be in New York between now and the beginning of August, you know that I would be happy to go over them with you, or if you prefer, to ship them, so that you could check them at your leisure. If you can see them before the convention, it would be helpful, but,

if not, I'll still keep them aside, because I feel that they are all coins you can use, and would like.

Kindest regards to you and Mrs. Norweb,

Sincerely,
Dick

July 16, 1958

Dear Mr. Norweb:

I have just received the ANA sale catalogue, and in going through it, find that there is an 1804 cent, perfect dies, such as you are looking for to give to Mrs. Norweb as a gift. That's the reason for addressing this letter to your office. I would like to suggest that you read the description, Lot 521, and if it interests you, you know that I will be happy to execute your bid. Of course, when I arrive in Los Angeles, I'll first check the coin. In addition to that piece, there are a number of other items that may interest you and Mrs. Norweb. There are two A-W 404s, Lots 6 and 1532, as well as a number of other Washington patterns, Lots 679, 1571, 1572, 1573, 1574. Regarding the Washington patterns, I am having a list prepared for me that will show all of the A-W numbers that have a Washington portrait. After I receive that list, I'll determine which ones have the same portraits, and will then have something more concrete to follow in looking for these items for you.

In addition to above lots, I notice a few others that might interest Mrs. Norweb. Lot 37, 1792 two disme in copper; Lot 602, which is listed as an 1848 first restrike half cent, which sounds as though it may be a second restrike (I'll check the coin out there); 2053, the Liber Natus cent in silver, which may just possibly be an original. If so, I've never heard of it, but Mrs. Norweb would know more about it than I would. Bolen was supposed to have struck only two of his copies in silver, so that even if it is a Bolen copy, it's quite rare.

Of course, when you go over the catalogue yourself, you may find a good number of other items that interest you and Mrs. Norweb. I'll be happy to check on anything in the sale for you, and execute whatever bids you may see fit to place with me.

At any day I am expecting a letter from Mr. Brand, and as soon as I receive it, I'll write and let you know what he has to say.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,
Dick

July 17, 1958

Dear Dick:

By way of following up our chat in New York I have gone over our schedule with my wife, and it looks very much as if we are thoroughly tied down here until we leave for Maine via New York on the 29th. For this I am really sorry as it looks like a good opportunity. However, we will do the best we can in the way of getting up a list of specialties about standing interest.

That being the case we shall be speaking with you when in New York before you leave for the West Coast on the 3rd.

Best regards,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

July 23, 1958

Dear Dick:

I have checked your notes with the ANA catalogue and I had already marked the various items you mentioned. I made comment on them as follows:

I believe I would prefer to have a strictly Uncirculated 1804 cent.

The Washington patterns we can check in New York next week.

Mrs. Norweb has the disme in copper as well as the 1848 half cent restrike.

Lot 2053 is a puzzler—but it is something you and Mrs. Norweb will want to talk over in New York. . . .

Very sincerely yours,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

November 3, 1958

Dear Dick:

I am just back from a few days in the duck marshes, and my wife has been telling me of the proposed arrangements of dealing with Brand. While away I had been mulling over the prospects, and frankly I'm not happy with the setup. For myself, I know full well that to make up my mind over the telephone as to the price and desirability of a list of coins is not going to work. I still feel that since you are going out for us you should look over the coins, preparing a list with your notes to submit to us. This of course would mean another trip to Chicago to pick up and pay for such as we may decide are needed.

This I do not believe would be a waste of time because you would be seeing just what the old man has. I realize that he is 90, eccentric, and has beautiful coins, but there is only a certain point to which a private collector will go to humor him. As you know full well, after all coins are our hobby, not our business.

My suggestion then is that you look upon the first trip as a sort of scouting expedition, yet one that would be on a business-like basis, with payments within 48 hours of any coins selected from those put aside. The combination of what you may want for yourself plus our list should make the game worth the candle for all concerned.

I note that you will not be leaving Flushing until Thursday afternoon, so this letter should reach you in ample time. . . .

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

April 14, 1959

Dear Dick:

Do you happen to know the background of the 1794 half cent you bought for us at the last sale? It would be interesting to know to whom it belonged and who was the last owner. What did you finally decide about the coloring of the coin?

Drop me a line at this office address at your convenience.

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

April 22, 1959

Dear Mr. Norweb:

Thank you for your letter of the 14th, and please excuse the delay in answering. Unfortunately, this letter was addressed to my old post office, which I still maintain [since relocating to Box 366 Albertson, Long Island, New York]. It wasn't until today that I was able to stop off and pick up this letter.

I do not have any pedigree of that 1794 half cent, other than the notation in the catalogue that it was from the Col. Green Collection. I should imagine that it is a well-pedigreed coin, and if you wish to send the coin to me, sometime in June, I will be happy to take it up to the American Numismatic Society and check through all the Chapman catalogues and try to find it.

I am sorry that you weren't happy with the two-escudos piece of Argentina. If you wish, you may return it to me, and I am certain that I can return it to Hans [Schulman]. If not, I feel certain that at that figure I can always sell it from my bourse table at one of the conventions.

I am leaving tomorrow for the Kansas City convention and will looking forward to a surprise visit from you. If not, at least I hope to see you at the New York convention.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,
Dick

John J. Pittman

John J. Pittman, a Rochester, New York numismatist, was active in numismatics beginning in the early 1940s. Later, he served

for many years on the Board of Governors of the American Numismatic Association and served a term as president.

Possessing an excellent technical and historical knowledge of Canadian and American numismatics (as well as numerous other fields), John J. Pittman was called upon frequently by the Norwebs to answer questions concerning items they had been offered. The letters in the Norweb file pertain primarily to Canadian coins, but there are a few scattered references to pieces in the United States series, some of which are quoted below.

October 29, 1953

Dear John:

A letter promises an advance copy of the Farouk Sale list. Presumably you too are working in this direction, so that I would merely suggest that whenever either you or I receive our copy we plan to get in touch with each other, so as to make sure that the information is quickly available to us both.

Among the items my spies report as included in the list is the rare Canadian $20 gold piece.

With personal regards,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

November 9, 1953

Dear John:

In line with our agreement to check with one another on matters numismatic, I have received a preview pamphlet from Sotheby's with details about the forthcoming Farouk Sale.

The coins will be auctioned from Wednesday, February 24th, to Sunday, February 28th—and then again at a second sale from Wednesday, March 3rd to Saturday, March 6th. The pamphlet has only one plate of coins—all gold—none United States.

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

December 31, 1953

My Dear John:

As agreed, I am writing to say that we have definitely decided to go to Cairo for the Farouk Sale, leaving New York on the *Andrea Doria* February 4. With the auction set up on a wholesale basis there is little that a private individual can hope for except to enjoy the spectacle, plus the weather, which is ideal at that season of the year. However, should you have anything particular in mind I would be glad to check on condition, etc., and let you know by cable. . . .

With every good wish,

Sincerely yours,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

April 13, 1954

Dear John:

As one of three Cairo independents, DiBello and I missed you very much at Stack's sale. We bought little at this sale. There was nothing in my wife's field, and my limit on the quarter eagle was $5,750. It went, as you perhaps know, for $6,000. I had intended to pick up the 1921 double eagle, but, frankly, made a mistake about the time it was to be put on sale. If you ever hear of one you will know it is on my want list. . . .

We missed your wife in London, since the day we were all supposed to join Baldwin I had to go to Nottingham and see relatives. We were particularly sorry, as we got to know Baldwin quite well, and look forward to knowing him a lot better.

When you have a chance please let me know which gold pieces you wanted from our late eagle series and I will check. We are expecting Abe to forward everything [from our purchases at the Farouk Sale in Cairo] here sometime this week.

I look forward to dropping by some evening on a motor trip to or from New York and the pleasure of seeing something of your outstanding collection.

With best personal wishes in which my wife joins me,

Yours sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

May 4, 1954

Dear Mr. Pittman:

By way of simplifying our correspondence, I am enclosing with a self-addressed envelope a questionnaire I have prepared with regard to the 1926-S double eagle, for appropriate checking. [The questionnaire asks whether John J. Pittman was the buyer for a certain specimen of the 1926-S double eagle, whether the lowest quotation to him was $2,500, $2,750, or $3,000 and whether it went to a dealer or a private collector.]

It was indeed good to see you and DiBello [Gaston DiBello, a prominent New York collector] again.

Hon. R. Henry Norweb

May 7, 1954

Dear Harry:

I enjoyed visiting with you and Gaston DiBello in Milwaukee. However, I am sure the visit would have been more enjoyable if your wife had been present. . . .

I am enclosing in this envelope the 1865-S quarter that was purchased in the sale at Milwaukee.

I have filled out the questionnaire with regard to the 1926-S double eagle, and I would like to add the following: I went to the dealer and looked at the piece, and the price was still $3,000. I also observed the piece very carefully and determined that there was a heavy cut in one of the letters on the obverse. I decided that it would be better not to buy the piece. I hope that you concur.

I then decided to try to find out if any other 1926-S double eagles were available. After considerable discussion, I found out that one party on the West Coast has three 1926-S double eagles. I have arranged to see if one and possibly two can be made available, also at a price less than $3,000. (By the way, one was sold in Chicago in May 1953 for less than $2,000.) Therefore, I feel that we should be able to obtain a choice 1926-S double eagle for you if we take our time.

For some time I have felt sure that some of the United States double eagles are being counterfeited outside of the United States. When I looked at the 1926-S double eagle, the same dealer mentioned that he had some of the European counterfeit double eagles and showed me specimens dated 1898 and 1921. I questioned the genuineness of the 1926-S. He maintained it was genuine. At the same time he also showed me another double eagle in the 1920s that was stated to be false (by a Paris banker). The dealer was not sure. The same dealer stated he was not planning to sell any of these counterfeits. Therefore, I think one must be very careful when purchasing any of the very rare United States double eagles to be sure that mintmarks have not been added or that the piece is not an out and out counterfeit.

Please give my regards to your wife. I shall be looking forward to seeing both of you in Cleveland in August.

Sincerely yours,
John

August 10, 1954

Dear John:

This is by way of inquiring about your plans for Cleveland in the hope that you may be coming on a day early, in which case let me know so that we can arrange for a pre-convention get together, perhaps also with Gaston [DiBello], if he is coming too.

It seems a long time since our paths crossed so briefly in Milwaukee, and there is much to catch up with. Presumably you will be staying at the Carter Hotel, but I have requested a guest card for you at the Union Club, which is very near the hotel and most convenient for a change of scene. . . .

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

September 7, 1954

My Dear Harry:

Thank you for your recent note telling me about the Nova Scotia cent 1861 and the Canada 1927 50-cent piece [a copy of which correspondence does not survive in the Norweb files].

I also enjoyed very much visiting with your wife and you in Cleveland [at the ANA Convention] and also with you in Toronto. It certainly was very kind of you to extend so much hospitality to me.

I shall look forward to seeing you again soon, perhaps in New York the week of the 20th.

Very sincerely,
John J. Pittman

October 6, 1954

Dear John:

Many thanks for your letter of the 30th [a copy of which does not survive in the Norweb files]. . . .

No word from Mike Kolman, and I am lying low as suggested. My guess is that he is still taking some holiday.

As for Washington, we have accommodations from the 22nd through the 26th at the Mayflower. I shall be joining my wife Saturday night after flying down from Sandusky, where I expect to spend the morning duck shooting. If you like wild duck I will see that you get a pair sometime during the season.

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

October 7, 1954

Dear John:

This is sort of a postscript to my letter the other day. . . . As regards to the late double eagles, the latest one we had prior to Cairo was 1928, and that was soldered. It has long since been disposed of, but I am sure that you would not be interested in it. It was because we lacked so many of the late double eagles that we went after Farouk Lot 185.

My wife asked me to add that she will be in Washington on the 22nd around luncheon time and looks forward to seeing you that evening and at frequent intervals thereafter. I shall join her Saturday afternoon or evening. . . .

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

October 8, 1954

Dear Harry:

Thank you for your letter of October 6th and postscript of October 7th. . . . Please tell your wife I shall look forward to seeing her in Washington on the 22nd and the other days of the convention. I shall also look forward to seeing you at that time. I trust that we shall find time for interesting conversations.

Thank you also for the information about the late date double eagles in the Farouk Lot 185. As mentioned to you in New York, I am really only interested in the dates 1929-1932. . . .

I appreciated very much your offer of the wild duck and I shall look forward to receiving a pair sometime during the season.

Very sincerely,
John

November 10, 1954

Dear John:

Your letter to Cleveland has been read to me over the phone. We shall miss you at the sale, for such gatherings are not the same without you. Let me know at the above address if we can do anything for you at the sale, as you offered to do for us. . . .

I was arranging to have a member of the family to bring the ducks for delivery to you on Saturday, but now we will have to wait for another opportunity. I had thought about air express, but there seems to be a ban on interstate shipments of wild fowl.

We return home Monday—and then to the marshes where I already hear the geese calling.

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

November 15, 1954

My Dear John:

Just back from a morning at the office before going out again to the duck marshes with the hope of picking off a few strays the president may have missed.

You must have had a hunch about the sale. We did not get one of the items in which we were interested. Fair prices went out of the window, with the half cent 1796 specimen, for example, going at $3,000 to a "Miss Pokerface." We called her that because she looked and acted like Helen Moody and added to the mystery of her preemptive bidding by paying in cash and disappearing with the loot in an ordinary market paper bag. I recognized her from the Big Cent Sale which you attended, and her tactics there were the same, but now with a repeat performance the mystery deepens. As regards to the 1870-S silver dollar, Kagin unfortunately was determined to get it at any price, and I dropped out at $4,000—double the Cairo specimen, but in my opinion worth it. [The reference in this paragraph is to Stack's Sale of the Anderson-Dupont Collection Sale.]. . . .

Very sincerely
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

November 18, 1954

My Dear Harry:

Thank you for your letters of November 10th and 15th. I especially enjoyed the letter of November 15th telling me about the events of the sale. As I indicated to you there were only about six items in the whole sale that I really felt I had to have at this time. I sent in bids on these lots and obtained two of them (the 1842 Proof half cent with Large Berries on the reverse and the 1850 Proof half cent). In addition to your letter, I also received a letter from another person at the sale who told me about the high prices that prevailed on many of the lots. I did have a hunch that it would be well neigh impossible to buy some of the coins that one wanted in the sale. I also learned before the sale that Kagin would be present, and I expected it would be extremely difficult for anyone else to buy the 1870-S dollar or some of the items he may have needed for some of his clients. Moreover, long ago I learned that New York is generally the most difficult city in the United States to buy half cents and large cents at public auction. I agree with you that the 1870-S silver dollar was worth at least $4,000. I believe you were wise at dropping out at that point, as undoubtedly Kagin would have carried it considerably higher if necessary.

By the way, what lots did you buy for sale?. . . .

Looking forward to hearing from Mrs. Norweb and you in the near future, I am, with best regards,

Sincerely yours,
John J. Pittman

November 22, 1954

Dear John:

A letter from you is always an event, but a full-pager such as yours of the 18th is doubly welcomed.

As for the post-mortem on the recent Stack sale, the only coins of importance we picked up were the 1901-S half dollar and two early examples of the 1795 dollar.

We have noted and inwardly digested your pertinent comments about New York City cent sales. You see, until recently we have had little experience in public auctions, preferring, for obvious reasons, to buy through agents, or because of our distance from home base, to work by mail on a fixed price basis. . . .

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

April 3, 1958

Dear Harry:

Recently I saw a Canadian documentary film which was made up primarily of black and white photographs of the era of the Dawson City gold rush. One of these photographs showed a large number of large gold bars. In the same picture, standing next to the large bars, was a man with a very small gold bar in his hand. This bar appeared to be about the same size or slightly larger than the Dawson City gold bar that your wife has. Who knows?—it may possibly be the very same one that she now has. I am trying to find out from the proper people in Ottawa where the original of the photograph is and, if possible, I will get some copies.

Sincerely yours,
John

April 8, 1958

Dear John:

My wife and I are most appreciative of your writing about the possibility of tracing the photograph relating to the Canadian gold bars, etc. It would be a nice thing to have and we wish you the best luck in tracing it. . . .

As for our own news, my wife and I leave for the Continent in about 10 days' time—part fun, part business. Because of the latter aspect of the trip I'm not at all sure that we shall be back for the Cincinnati meeting. It is one I am sorry to miss because there should be a goodly amount of Canadian material on tap.

With personal regards,

Very sincerely yours,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

July 21, 1958

Dear John:

My wife and I are not satisfied with the photographic equipment we have for taking pictures of coins and so we are in the market for a good portable camera. Someone has suggested the Exacta. Another person has suggested the Swiss-made Alpha. Do let me have the benefit of your experience and recommendations. Surely Kodak must have something suitable for our needs. . . .

As always at this season of the year we are numismatically in the doldrums. We shall be in Maine for most of August, except for three or four days when I plan to fly out for the West Coast convention. . . .

Sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

[No date given]

Dear Harry:

It was good to hear from you again. I will get the information together for you about the various types of photographic equipment which might be used for photographing coins. In addition, I hope we can find time in Los Angeles to talk about this and other things.

So far I have not been able to get all the information from Canada on the Yukon pictures. But I do know that they were taken on glass plates by a United States photographer from Wisconsin named Hegg. Using Hegg's plates, Messrs. Colin Low and Wolf Koenig of the Canadian National Film Board produced the documentary film "City of Gold." Up to this point I have not been successful in getting a print of the particular shot that shows the large and small ingots, but I hope it will be along eventually. . . .

Looking forward to seeing you at the convention, I am,

Sincerely yours,
John

August 8, 1958

Dear John:

Your good letter was forwarded to me here [in Maine] and I appreciate your friendly helpfulness. . . .

I had hoped to be in Los Angeles but I am going to New York for an eye checkup instead. The trouble has been most persistent and I want to see the specialist before he leaves on vacation. This may interfere with the convention plans.

With best regards from us both,

Very sincerely yours,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

Wayte Raymond

The Norweb files contain several minor invoices from Wayte Raymond, Inc., of Box 431, Mineola, New York. By that time, Wayte Raymond who had been one of the most active principals on the New York City numismatic scene since shortly after 1910, was in retirement. His activities were primarily limited to publishing monographs as part of *The Coin Collectors' Journal* and selling "National" coin albums. No detailed letters were present in the Norweb files.

Mark M. Salton-Schlessinger

Mark M. Salton-Schlessinger, of 20 Magaw Place, New York, New York, bid in several Hans M.F. Schulman auction sales on behalf of the Norwebs. The letter files contain several invoices dated in the 1950s, none of which related to United States coins. The letter reproduced here is typical:

September 14, 1959

Dear Mr. Norweb:

You will have received a catalogue for the forthcoming auction: Christensen, taking place on October 23, 1959.

I shall attend to your bids personally, and will be glad to execute them in your very best interest, which means that I shall endeavor to buy at the lowest possible price, which may result in savings on your bid.

I will also before the auction carefully examine the coins as to genuineness, preservation, etc., and should you require any additional information about any lot, I shall be glad to furnish you with same.

Commission charge on successful bids 5%.

Sincerely yours,
Mark M. Salton

Hans M.F. Schulman

Hans M.F. Schulman, located at 545 Fifth Avenue, New York City, was one of the most prominent dealers in New York City from the 1940s until relatively recent times. He conducted many auctions and handled numerous rarities, particularly in the field of world and ancient coins. Correspondence and invoices in the Norweb files primarily relate to world coins, with scattered mentions of United States series. Excerpts follow.

July 23, 1953

My Dear Mr. Norweb:

We have just learned that Mr. Howard D. Gibbs has written

you about the Canadian items and noticed on the copy that he addressed you as Mr. Norweberg. This error occurred because he mistook my handwriting on one of your invoices to be Norweb erg, instead of Norweb esq. Sincerely hope you do not mind this error. . . .

Looking forward to hearing from you and with very kind wishes, as always,

Yours very sincerely,
Hans M.F. Schulman

April 16, 1954

Dear Mr. Norweb:

We are enclosing herewith copies of the customs broker's invoice, which covers the paperweight delivered to you when you were in New York.

I wish that I could report that Mr. Schulman has arrived home [from the Cairo sale and travels in Europe], but from the latest letters it looks like it will take a few more weeks. Upon his arrival, I know he will be in touch with you.

With cordial greetings,
Helen Deutsch,
Secretary

April 28, 1954

Dear Miss Deutsch:

Your letter of the 16th was by mistake addressed to my son, who has reforwarded it to me from the West Coast.

Enclosed is my check in payment of the paperweight.

I am sorry to hear that the date of Mr. Schulman's return is still uncertain. Perhaps by next week when I shall be in New York you will have better news. At all events I plan to call at the office and see some of the material listed for the next auction.

Incidentally, have you any word about Lots 285 (gold dollars), 1700 (half cents), and 2771 (United States currency)? [from the Farouk Sale]

Yours sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

July 22, 1954

My Dear Miss Deutsch:

Thank you for your informative note about Mr. Schulman's plans. I know how glad you will all be to have him back at the helm, but more especially, how relieved he will be to leave the dreadful ordeal behind him.

Please tell Mr. Schulman we look forward to seeing him in Cleveland, though there is a chance if he arrives on the 14th as expected, that I shall see him in New York, since I have a mid-monthly meeting to attend there at that time.

Yours sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

August 9, 1954

Dear Miss Deutsch:

This is a report on the various consignments expected:

Lot 3771 from the Farouk Sale has been received.

Rodolphe Haller, Ltd., the shippers, have asked that Mr. Schulman's office be notified of the arrival. However, no statement of any nature was enclosed other than the insurance certificate.

Kindly bring this to Mr. Schulman's attention upon his arrival.

Very truly yours,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

August 11, 1954

Dear Mr. Norweb:

Thank you for your letter of August 9th and your advice on the arrival of the lot of paper money.

Just a word of explanation in regard to the missing invoice. Mr. Schulman made the shipments from Basle, at which time he also billed the items that were being sent. However, he did not forward these to us, but is bringing them with him. You will therefore receive your invoice after his arrival and upon completion.

In the meantime you will be seeing Mr. Schulman in Cleveland [at the ANA Convention].

Sincerely yours,
Helen Deutsch

March 11, 1957

Dear Ambassador:

Thanks for yours of March 6th. If you have a moment please look up the exciting story of Julius Popper of Tierra del Fuego. It makes a coin more interesting. I sent it on approval. The price is quite low.

Just bought one of the Brazilian bars, earlier in the Farouk Collection, the big Gias bar. I can sell same for less than $1,000. Are you interested?

Hope to see you before you go to England.

Sincerely yours,
Hans M.F. Schulman

March 14, 1957

Dear Hans:

Thanks very much for your letter of March 11th, but we have discontinued our interest in Brazilian bars.

Very sincerely yours,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

July 11, 1957

Dear Hans:

Plans are changing for our New York visit, and since the only day we can see our daughter in Flemington is the day you suggested for lunch, I would like to suggest a postponement until after the Philadelphia meeting, when we shall be in New York for about five days en route to Canada.

At all events, time permitting, we shall call at your office on the chance you may have something.

Very sincerely yours,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

February 19, 1958

My Dear Mr. Ambassador:

I missed you at my auction and I hope all was well with you. Were there any coins you had really wanted?

I want to thank you still for the check for my earlier invoice.

Very sincerely,
Hans

February 24, 1958

Dear Hans:

Although I could not attend the sale I understand it went off very well.

I did get a few items but only half of what I had in mind, having underestimated what they would fetch. . . .

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

August 23, 1958

My Dear Mr. Ambassador:

Greetings from Ireland to you and Mrs. Norweb. Finding some coins but not much in your series. Is there anything I can do for you? If so you can contact me until September 7th at my permanent mailing address [given in Switzerland].

I do hope your eye is much better.

Respectfully,
Hans Schulman

September 10, 1958

Dear Hans:

Thank you for your nice note en route. I am sending this to the address you gave me. . . .

There is nothing special except of course the news of Fred Boyd's death in this morning's paper. The Ottawa meeting was on the dull side, though it is always good to see old friends. Mr. Ferguson and Mr. Bowman were both in fine form. . . .

Very sincerely yours,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

March 19, 1959

Dear Hans:

Of the coins I saw in your office I might be interested in the 1697 Peruvian cob. I have the very rare one of a year earlier and would like to add this if there is any worthwhile difference. I wish however you would look at the price again because the Friedberg book (which of course is not infallible) does not list this series so high.

When the coins come from California we would like to see the Birch cent and the Washington piece. These would be returned by air mail.

Very sincerely yours,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

April 13, 1959

Dear Mr. Ambassador:

I missed you at our April sale at the Waldorf. The attendance was so large that there was really only one seat open which I hope you would have occupied. I presume that you will be in New York on the first days of May for the Metropolitan Coin Convention at which time I hope to see you again.

Do you suggest that I keep the 1697 Peru cob still in reserve for you? I take this opportunity to show my curiosity in finding out if the Venezuelan government ever asked you for information about me as I gave your name in reference before selling certain coins to them.

My respectful regards to Mrs. Norweb and yourself.

Yours sincerely,
Hans

Jacques Schulman

Jacques Schulman, cousin of Hans, conducted business from a spacious office located at Keizersgracht 448, Amsterdam, Holland. During the 1950s correspondence concerning the purchase of various world coins was engaged in with the Norwebs. Letters concerning United States and related issues were minimal but include the following:

July 16, 1957

Dear Mr. Norweb:

Having recorded, as you desired, the fact that you are interested in coins struck in the United States for other countries, I am happy to be able to offer you a very rare and interesting piece of this kind.

It is the four-sovereign piece struck in Philadelphia in 1947 for Saudi Arabia to take the place of English sovereigns which had disappeared from circulation. You will find the piece recorded in Wayte Raymond, *Coins of the World*, page 270, No. 13, and in Yeoman, *World Coins*, page 417, No. 22. The price of the coin would be $125, and I should be glad to send it to you on approval.

Yours very sincerely,
Jacques Schulman

July 22, 1957

Dear Mr. Schulman:

I appreciate your thought and continuing interest in my hobby of coins struck in the United States for other countries.

As regards to the coin mentioned, it is already in the collection, but shows signs of considerable wear. If the specimen you have is in top condition please let me know.

Very sincerely yours,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

Benjamin Stack—Imperial Coin Company

Benjamin Stack, earlier associated with the family business of Stack's, set up an independent business, the Imperial Coin Company, located at 5 East 47th Street, later moving to Las Vegas, Nevada, at 120 South 3rd Street. A number of letters from and to him remain in the Norweb files, excerpts from which are reproduced herewith.

May 25, 1954

Dear Mr. Norweb:

I do hope that this letter finds you and Mrs. Norweb in the best of health.

I thought you might like to know that I have just acquired several outstanding rarities in the United States coinage. I have the following that might be of interest to you:

1884 trade dollar in Brilliant Proof.
1885 trade dollar in Brilliant Proof.
1823 quarter dollar about Extremely Fine.

None of these coins are from the Farouk Sale. They are from the Williams Collection and offered by the Numismatic Gallery under the Menjou name. If you are interested in any or all, I will be happy to discuss price with you.

Thanking you for your interest, and with my warmest personal regards, I remain,

Yours most sincerely,
Imperial Coin Company
Ben

May 27, 1954

Dear Ben:

It is good to know that you keep us in mind when something special appears on the horizon. In this case we have the two trade dollars in Proof condition. Our 1823 quarter however is only Very Good. This latter item is something we want to improve, but normally we would hold out for an Uncirculated or even a Proof specimen. It is therefore perhaps just a matter of curiosity to inquire about a quotation on this piece.

We shall be in New York next Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, so you could probably call us at the apartment at that time.

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

October 12, 1954

Dear Mr. Norweb:

I wish to acknowledge with thanks receipt of your note of October 5th.

Unfortunately, I was unable to execute any of your bids. I enclose herewith your original envelope to indicate that the letter was written on the 5th, but mailed on the 7th. It probably arrived at my office on Saturday, since it was here this morning (Monday) when I arrived. I therefore did not know you were interested in any of the lots.

The following are the prices that the lots realized. They were all sold to "floor buyers" and I was unable to have Stack's adjust records as would have been the case if mail bidders had acquired

them. I'm awfully sorry, but we will be able to get them some other time. Lot 290 $18, 409 $32.50, 414 $17.50.

I've been rather busy lately, trying to get my new locale organized. I am almost at a point of throwing my hands up. It is a huge job.

With my warmest personal regards, and until we have the pleasure of being together in Washington, I remain,

Yours most sincerely,
Ben

October 25, 1954

Dear Mr. Norweb:

As requested, here is your invoice that covers our several very hasty transactions on Sunday [group of dimes for $777, 1901-S dime for $125, plus a commission of $50, for a total of $952, plus auction Lot 143 added separately for $97.50].

I do hope that you have found all of the coins completely satisfactory. I can assure you that no greater "bargain" prevails in your collection, based upon present-day values. Frankly, they are worth at least double invoice value.

With my warmest personal regards, I am,

Yours most sincerely,
Benjamin Stack

November 1, 1954

Dear Ben:

Enclosed is my check for $1,049.50 for the various items purchased through you at the Washington sale. I appreciate your helpfulness in bringing this lot to our attention, but next time we must both be a little more discriminating as to condition. I blame myself for not noting even the quick checkup that the 1866-S and 1870-S were not strictly Uncirculated, and that the 1865-S, while Uncirculated, is unattractive, as the obverse is so weakly struck to be featureless.

Since as you know all of these coins were by way of improving condition of specimens already in the collection, to acquire anything less than Uncirculated is not worthwhile.

I find I failed to mention the 1841 quarter eagle and the 1858 eagle you offered over the telephone. As the asking price is out of line we are not interested. Thank you just the same for keeping us in mind.

With personal regards,

Yours very truly
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

August 30, 1955

Dear Mr. Norweb:

Greetings, from FABULOUS LAS VEGAS. I do hope that this letter finds both you and Mrs. Norweb in the best of health and all is well with you.

I missed you at the recent convention in Omaha, although you certainly did not miss much. The weather was unbearably hot, and few of us ventured beyond the confines of the hotel. I can assure you that very little was offered that would have been of interest to you, and you probably did the wisest thing by staying at your poolside in Cleveland. . . .

By the way, it is funny how fate can turn. The man who purchased that gem pair of 1823 and 1827 quarters has tired of collecting. I expect to have the collection in my possession late this fall, and you can rest assured that no one, but only the Norwebs will own these two coins. I will offer the collection at fixed prices, with you getting the first crack.

Thank you for your interest in the above matters, and with warmest regards remain,

Yours most sincerely,
Benjamin Stack

September 6, 1955

Dear Ben:

Your letter of the 30th came at the same time as the anticipated inquiry, to which your reply is being sent today to say that there is already a specimen of this coin in the collection.

As regards to the elusive quarters, as they say in your part of the country, *vamos a ver*—or as you and I would say, it is the wait and see kind.

Off tomorrow for Ottawa. Sorry you will not be there.

Very truly yours,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

January 19, 1956

Dear Mr. Norweb:

Thanks very much for your wire of yesterday.

I do hope that this note finds both Mrs. Norweb and yourself in the best of health. We are all in the best of health and spirits here, and are certainly enjoying this western climate. I am leaving for Phoenix tonight, for a few days of well-earned rest. My reception here in Las Vegas has exceeded expectations, and I have been much busier than anticipated.

Enclosed please find the two coins requested. I know you will be pleased with them, especially the 1875-S quarter. It is a gem, and I think probably as rare as the 1873-CC quarter. I once discussed this coin with John Pittman, and he values his specimen at several hundred dollars.

If you get a chance, make up a list of the San Francisco Mint coins you lack. I will be in Los Angeles for the convention in February, and might be able to locate a coin or two for you. I am also sending under separate cover a copy of the auction sale catalogue for this convention. It has a few very nice items which you might need. I shall be only too happy to purchase them for you.

Yours most sincerely,
Ben

January 23, 1956

Dear Ben:

Here is my check for $110 for the 1875-S quarter and the 1861-S dime. The quarter is a beauty—the dime was "borderline" Uncirculated.

Thank you for your suggestion about the San Francisco Mint want list. Here is a list of the most important needed items. Of course there are examples of every one of these in the collection, but not in Uncirculated condition.

Please enter our bid for Lot 1886 at $120.

With personal regards,

Yours sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

February 27, 1956

Dear Mr. Norweb:

I do hope that this note finds you and Mrs. Norweb in good health, and all is well with you.

Enclosed please find Lot 1886 from the Kabealo Sale, as per your letter of January 23rd. While you authorized me to go to $120 it opened on the floor at $121. I figured you might as well wish to go the extra few dollars but I later found out that John Ford had bid the $121 and I presumed that it was eventually for you.

I was not able to locate any of the San Francisco coins that appeared on your list, since very little of high-quality merchandise was offered at that convention, which is most surprising in view of the market.

So, with warmest personal regards, I remain,

Yours most sincerely,
Ben

May 15, 1956

Dear Mr. Norweb:

Well, I finally arrived home after that long and tedious trip across the United States.

I do hope that this letter finds both Mrs. Norweb and yourself in the best of health, and all is well with you.

If you recall our conversation in New York, I advised you that I had acquired the Manning Collection of half dollars from 1794 to 1950. This collection was assembled over a period of 40 years, and contains many choice, outstanding, and rare coins. Virtually all of the collection is in Uncirculated condition. It contains several coins that are unlisted in various reference books. To sum it up, it is one of the outstanding collections (specialized) to ever be offered. I therefore, solicit your want list in the entire series of half dollars, in addition, a list of those coins you wish to improve. I shall be happy to quote you, or send for examination. I want you to know that you will be virtually the first person to acquire coins from this collection, since I have decided to disperse it.

Thanking you for giving this letter your attention, I remain,

Yours most sincerely,
Benjamin Stack

May 21, 1956

Dear Ben:

I too have been very much on the move of late. Having just returned from Washington this past weekend this is the first opportunity I have had to go through the half dollar series. As you will perhaps remember the collection is strong in this group, with the problem being chiefly that of improving what we have.

With this in mind here is a list of some of the items that are desired, in top condition: a 1794, 1795, 1802, 1805, 1855-S, 1856-S, 1868-S, 1870-CC, 1870-S, and 1871-CC.

Regards,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

May 31, 1956

Dear Mr. Norweb:

Thank you very much for your letter and want list of the 21st.

Please pardon the delay in getting a reply off to you, but I have been as busy as any human could be. What with trying to get caught up with my avalanche of mail, plus trying to put the half dollar collection in some order, and trying to spend some time with my family, I just don't know where I am at.

Under separate cover, via registered mail, I have this day shipped to you, as part of the attached invoice, only the items that I felt would be of interest to you for your collection. [1795 Uncirculated $175, 1795 Gem Uncirculated $250, 1802 AU $175, 1805 EF to AU $45, 1855-S Gem Uncirculated $750, 1856-S Gem Uncirculated $250, 1870-S Gem Uncirculated $30]. You will note upon receipt of the parcel that all of the coins contained therein are beautiful. These coins come from the Charles Manning Collection of Pittsburgh. He, I believe, was on the board of the Mellon Bank, if not, was connected with the bank in some executive capacity. The collection was assembled over the past 40 years, and you will note that I have not "cleaned" or doctored any of the coins. They are all in original Mint State, and would blend beautifully with your collection.

Now, perhaps some comment about price would be in order. You may or may not have heard how I came into the collection. It was acquired by competitive bidding. Fortunately for me, I came in high man. I had to pay top dollar, which accounts for the prices I am asking. I might comment about the 1855-S, which is perhaps the finest known. I doubt very much if more than three or four exist in this condition. This is, without a doubt, the nicest of those that exist. I could mention four names of people who would readily pay what I am asking you, but since I promised you "first chance," here they are. If you, after examination of these coins, would like to improve anything else, just drop me a line, and I will be happy to send what I have. The collection is virtually complete, less a few great rarities. I do have an extraordinary 1878-S half dollar, superior to the specimen that New Netherlands sold as a Proof.

With my very warmest personal regards, I remain,

Yours most sincerely,
Ben

June 6, 1956

Dear Ben:

Thanks for your letter of recent date. I too have been very much on the move and am leaving again tomorrow.

This letter is to ackowledge receipt of the half dollars which by and large are fine examples. The early issues are just a shade better than ours but not enough to be tempting. As for the 1855-S and 1856-S, they are indeed outstanding examples but quite frankly we are not prepared to reach for them to that extent. Last year at the Baldenhofer Sale I went to $320 for the 1855-S, which as you perhaps remember finally went for $380. These comments should not be taken to suggest that the prices of these rare coins are out of line, but certainly they are not attractive.

Of the lot that you were good enough to send I am keeping the 1870-S and my check for $30 is enclosed. The others are returned separately by air mail. I am sorry we could not do more business.

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

July 23, 1956

Dear Ben:

If still available please send me the following half dollars from your current list: 1841-O Uncirculated $17.50, 1842-O Large Date $15, 1846-O Small Date Uncirculated $20. My check is enclosed.

Very truly yours,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

July 25, 1956

Dear Mr. Norweb:

This will acknowledge with many thanks receipt of your letter and order of the 23rd. I very much regret advising you that the three coins which you requested, the 1841-O, 1842-O Large Date, 1846-O Small Date, are out on approval at this time. Funny thing, too, since they were requested only last Thursday. Naturally, if I should get them back for any reason, I will be very happy to send them on to you.

I am therefore herewith returning your check and apologize for any inconvenience caused you.

Thanking you again, and with my best regards, I am,

Yours most sincerely,
Ben

Stack's

The firm of Stack's was established in New York City in the early 1930s by Joseph B. and Morton Stack, brothers, with their sister, Shirley also playing a part in the early years. From that time until the present day, they have been an important factor on the American coin scene and have conducted several hundred auctions, including many of extreme importance. In later years, the business was conducted by sons of the founders, Benjamin (who left the firm to form his own business, the Imperial Coin Company in the mid 1950s, then returned), Norman and Harvey.

In the 1950s, as in later years, business was conducted at 123 West 57th Street, New York City. A subsidiary firm, Coin Galler-

IMPERIAL COIN COMPANY

BENJAMIN STACK

Rare Coins – Original Coin Jewelry

120 South Third Street
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA
Tel. DUdley 2-8922

May 31st, 1956

Mr. R. Henry Norweb
9511 Lake Shore Blvd.
Cleveland 8, Ohio

Dear Mr. Norweb:

Thank you very much for your letter and want list of the 21st.

Please pardon the delay in getting a reply off to you, but I have been as busy as any human could be. What with trying to get caught up with my avalanche of mail, plus trying to put the Half Dollar collection in some order, and trying to spend some time with my family, I just don't know where I am at.

Under seperate cover, via Registered Mail, I have this day shipped to you, as per the attached invoice, only the items that I felt would be of interest to you for your collection. You will note upon receipt of the parcel, that all of the coins contained therein are beautiful. These coins come from the Charles Manning collection of Pittsburgh. He, I believe was on the board of the Mellon Bank, if not was connected with the bank in some executive capacity. The collection was assembled over the past 40 years, and you will note that I have not "cleaned" or doctored any of the coins. They are all in original mint state, and would blend beautifully with your collection.

Now, perhaps a comment about price would be in order. You may or may not have heard how I came into the collection. It was acquired by competitive bidding. Fortunately for me, I came in high man. I had to pay top, top dollar, which accounts for the prices I am asking. I might comment about the 1855 "S", which is perhaps the finest known. I doubt very much if more than three or four exist in this condition. This is, without a doubt, the nicest of those that exist. I could mention four names of people that would readily pay what I am asking you, but since I promised you "first chance", here they are. If you, after examination of these coins, would like to improve anything else, just drop me a line, and I will be happy to send what I have. The collection is virtually complete, less a few great rarities. I do have an extraordinary 1878 "S" Half Dollar, superior to the specimen that New Netherlands sold as a Proof.

With my very warmest personal regards, I remain,

Yours most sincerely,
IMPERIAL COIN COMPANY

BS:cv

Benjamin Stack

Letter from Benjamin Stack of the Imperial Coin Company, May 31, 1956, addressed to Ambassador Norweb. Benjamin Stack had just acquired an outstanding holding of half dollars.

ies, earlier located at a different address, is now on the second floor above Stack's.

A number of invoices and several letters from the 1950s remain in the Norweb files, excerpts from which are reproduced herewith.

August 12, 1953

Gentlemen:

Please send on approval (in Uncirculated condition) the following items from your Fixed Price List No. 53: 1907-D dime, 1919-S quarter.

And the following 50-cent pieces: 1901-S, 1905-S, 1907-S, 1912-S, 1919-D, 1920-D.

Kindly mail at once as we leave on the 20th for Dallas.

Many thanks
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

November 9, 1953

My Dear Morton:

On returning from a hunting expedition I found the 1914 Proof quarter which I requested by way of a substitution for the specimen bought at your recent Wooster Sale. Would you be good enough to check through to make sure there has not been a mix-up somewhere along the line? Somehow or other the quarter that I have looks very much like the one that was returned. To be sure, it is a brilliant specimen, but there is a scratch on the obverse field running from about 1:00 to 4:00 that closely parallels the imperfection noted in the Wooster specimen.

My present plan is to come to New York about the 18th of the month, but I doubt if Mrs. Norweb will accompany me. Please note this date on your calendar should you have anything of special interest to show me.

With personal regards,

Sincerely yours,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

November 10, 1953

Dear Mr. Norweb:

We are in receipt of your letter of November 9th regarding the 1914 Proof quarter sent to you as a substitution from our recent auction sale. This is, to my knowledge, a different specimen as we have already returned the other to the consignor of the coin.

Awaiting the pleasure of seeing you around the 18th of the month, we remain,

Very sincerely yours,
J.B. Stack

September 6, 1955

Dear Harvey:

If the 1861 double eagle Gem Uncirculated [priced at $100 in a listing] is still available, please put it aside for me until my next trip to New York about the middle of the month.

Off to Ottawa tonight.

Very truly,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

June 1, 1956

Dear Mr. Norweb;

After several requests we finally got a copy of the invoice covering your purchases at the Indianapolis sale from Abe Kosoff.

We are herewith enclosing the invoice and hope that it checks with your prices.

Sincerely yours,
Harvey G. Stack

June 6, 1956

Dear Harvey:

Herewith my check for the bids which your father and Ben were good enough to make for me at the Indianapolis sale [of the Melish Collection; such bids totaling $1,220 for Lots 1943, 1948, 2123, 2308, 2312, 2318, and 2449].

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

October 3, 1957

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Norweb:

It is with great pleasure that we herewith enclose an advance copy of the Empire Collection auction catalogue. We invite you to review the items listed therein and you will, no doubt, find many coins needed in your collection. The coins will be on display in New York within one week from the date of this letter and it will be our pleasure to personally provide estimates and to guide you in any way possible in arriving at your bids for this important sale.

We invite you, if it is at all possible, to try to arrange to attend this sale personally.

With kindest regards from all, we are,
Stack's

October 7, 1957

Dear Harvey:

We were glad to have the new catalogue over the weekend, and congratulations to all on this fine presentation of an outstanding collection. Presumably it is the Cass Collection.

Certainly there are a number of items which would be welcomed additions, and all being well for both of us, we plan to be in New York for the four days of the sale. It should be fun.

With regards to all,

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

Maurice A. Storck

Maurice A. Storck was for many years a leading New England dealer. Doing business from Box 2155, South Portland, Maine he handled a wide variety of coins and also books and accessories. As director of the New England Numismatic Association, he represented the state of Maine. The Norweb files contain correspondence involving several transactions.

April 12, 1954

My Dear Mr. Storck:

We would like to keep the 1821 half dollar, so please let me have your statement.

It was good to see some of the Cairo contingent again. Let's keep in touch whenever you have anything special to offer.

Yours sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

April 15, 1954

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Norweb:

Enclosed is the 1795 half dollar with three leaves below the wings, [invoiced for $150 and subsequently paid] which I said I would send. Please feel free to return it if it does not meet with your approval. No need for me to say anything about it, as I am sure you know more about it than me. It is only the second one I have ever handled.

I have not heard from Mr. [Robert] McAusland on the 1821 as yet—will drop you a line when I do.

If there are any items in United Stated silver that you need, just send me a list and I will check my stock for you. I enjoyed seeing you both again and am looking forward to our next meeting in Cleveland.

Kindest regards,
Maurice A. Storck

April 19, 1954

Dear Mr. Norweb:

Just received a letter from McAusland and you may have the 1821 half dollar Proof for $35.

Had not had a chance to go through my stock to see if I could find anything for you yet. I believe I have an 1826 Proof half cent somewhere. Will look for it.

Yours sincerely,
Maurice A. Storck

April 22, 1954

My Dear Mr. Storck:

Enclosed is my check for $185 in payment for the two pieces [the 1795 half dollar for $150 and the 1821 Proof at $35], though I cannot figure why I was willing to pay $35 for the 1821 specimen when $28 was my limit for a similar item at a recent sale. It must be good salesmanship!

Please keep us in mind for the unusual.

Very truly yours,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

May 27, 1954

My Dear Mr. Storck:

In the Farouk lot did you happen to get an 1823 quarter dollar in at least Very Fine condition? If so, and should it still be available, please let me have a quotation. Our sample is only Very Good.

Yours sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

May 29, 1954

Dear Mr. Norweb:

Just received your letter. Glad to hear from you.

No, there wasn't a 1823 quarter in the lot I got, as I remember it was with another coin and was only Good or Very Good.

Taking it easy from now until August. Only nice item I have picked up lately is the Panama-Pacific set in copper frame, which I take for granted you have.

Remember me to Mrs. Norweb.

Sincerely yours,
Maurice

June 2, 1954

My Dear Mr. Storck:

What a sensible person to coast along for the next couple of months.

Yes, we have the set, but my son does not. Come Labor Day and you are back at your desk again, drop me a line so I can tell him price and condition.

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

September 9, 1954

My Dear Mr. Storck:

I am writing from New York to say that I am arranging with the Cleveland office to return the collection of half dimes you so kindly left for our approval. On comparing our own specimens with yours we find that on the whole it would be not worthwhile purchasing an entire new lot even to get the 1802 of which we do not have a specimen.

It may be a few days before you get the coins since there will be no one in the Cleveland office until early next week.

With personal regards,

Sincerely yours,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

April 8, 1955

Dear Maurice:

Your note to Florida has been pending for some time, but only recently have we returned to home base. Also I have held off until it was clear just when the time would be set for our own trip to Europe. The meeting is now scheduled for the end of May, so we leave here on the 18th—spend about 10 days in London—and back again. Not much time for extracurricular activities, but since it will be by steamer both ways there is not much time to spare.

Presumably you will be coming to Detroit for the meeting there, and should you be passing through Cleveland due plan to drop in to see us en route. I shall probably be at Detroit, and both of us hope to be at the New York meeting the following week.

With personal regards,

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

December 21, 1955

Dear Maurice:

Best greetings of the season to you.

Your "Vacationland" list in the December issue of the *Scrapbook* was the first I had heard of you in ages. Apparently you have not come to the various conventions, and we missed one another in Europe. Let me know how things are with you and if you have anything with special merit. Remember please I am always looking for top-class Canadian material to help improve the collection. But also I would be interested in an 1862-S and an 1866 quarter eagle if you ever come across a good example.

When you dig out from the big freeze, which according to today's papers has you in its grip, let me have a note as to how you are, together with any numismatic chit-chat.

Yours sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

December 28, 1955

Dear Friends:

Received your letter a few days ago. Good hearing from you, and was pleased to get your card.

I did not arrive back from Europe until the last part of December, so that was why I was not at Philadelphia, and as you know hunting season was open and I had to get my hunting in. Making plans now to go to Newfoundland moose hunting next September. I heard a moose swallowed a couple of rare coins!

I will be at Indianapolis in April, planning to bring my wife and sons with me, as I have several aunts and uncles living there whom they have never seen. My last trip before I leave for hunting will be to Chicago to attend the ANA Convention in August.

I have put the 1862-S and 1866 quarter eagles on my lookout list, and if I run across them you shall have them.

My Canadian material is kind of weak, as Mr. [Wayne] Rich from Concord, New Hampshire keeps coming over and picking up the nice material. Nothing really rare but in nice condition. If you want some silver Extremely Fine or Uncirculated grade, let me know as I am always picking it up and will save it for you. Needless to say, if anything rare shows up I will drop you a line.

I might suggest if you would like to improve your United States series, such as some of the minor coins, you can send me a list and I will go through my stock picking out some I think you would want. I will send them on approval. In this way you can compare and keep what you want. I have never done this before but would be glad to do it for you. I really admire you both for taking such an active interest in the hobby. I wish my wife knew as much about collecting coins as she does about spending them. Ha-ha!

I bought everything I saw in United States coins in Europe,

but nothing rare, although quite a lot of nice items for the average collector. See my ad in the January issue of the *Scrapbook*. I like the Scandinavian countries the best, but there were no coins there to speak of.

Will close for now. See you in Indianapolis, I hope. With best regards to you both.

Very sincerely,
Maurice

March 23, 1956

Dear Maurice:

Passing through New York the other day we were told that you might have an 1802 half dime. As you know from the Cleveland convention we have been on the lookout for this coin, and if still available let me know what you are asking.

Yours sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

March 26, 1956

Dear Henry:

Just received your letter and was glad to hear from you. Whoever told you I had an 1802 half dime must have been thinking of the one I bought in Egypt, and as you know I sold the set quite some time ago. If I ever locate another you can be sure you will know about it before the party who told you I had one tells you about it.

I am enclosing an 1930 nickel, which according to the list you sent me, should be better than the one you have. Please keep it with my compliments. . . .

I thought I would let you know that I just made a bid on a Panama-Pacific set in a copper frame at $3,000, and don't believe I will get it. If your son would like to make a profit, tell him I'm interested. The way things are going today, the best thing a dealer can do is buy the items he is selling.

Will sign off for now. See you in Minneapolis. Please remember me to Mrs. Norweb.

Kindest personal regards,
Maurice

March 28, 1956

Dear Maurice:

The 1802 half dime rumor was originated by New Netherlands, who undoubtedly confused it with the Farouk specimen—but that's the way it goes.

Many thanks for the 1930 nickel, which is an improvement over the one in the collection. . . . As for the Panama-Pacific set, I had no idea how much they are in demand. I only wish we had an extra one to let you have.

On the chance that you may be traveling to Indianapolis by car and are coming via Cleveland, do let us know a little in advance if you could stop off for luncheon on your way through.

With personal regards,

Sincerely yours,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

April 1, 1956

Dear Henry:

Thanks for the invitation to stop by for luncheon. Will be driving through Cleveland April 25th around noon, and would like my wife to meet you both and see your lovely home. Will also have my two sons, age 9 and 11, with us. Please do not go to any trouble on our account, as we are just Down-Easterners. . . .

With personal regards to you both,

As ever,
Maurice

July 8, 1957

My Dear Maurice:

Speaking of thought transference—there is no doubt that there is something in it! On the third of July, the date of your letter to Mrs. Norweb [a copy of which does not survive in the Norweb files], my son and I were flying back from Cuba where we had been to pick up my grandson. Arrangements had been made in Portland to get a Hertz car, and I suggested to my son that should he run into any difficulties to "be sure and call Maurice"—a good friend and one who knows his way about.

We shall be in Maine for the first three weeks of August and will call you in advance of our coming to Portland. It will be good to get together. . . .

Very sincerely yours,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

September 3, 1957

Dear Maurice:

Back at home base, and how good it is to be surrounded once again with our *Lares et Penates*.

The Philadelphia meeting [of the American Numismatic Association] was only fairly successful, but the convention at Hamilton [of the Canadian Numismatic Association] was a complete flop as regards to new Canadian material. It seems that items everyone wanted were on the top priority list of a young Texas collector, and he had buy bids everywhere. Against such competition there is little hope for the average collector until such time as the Texan's wants are met. But it was never thus. . . .

Please give our regards to your wife. We shall always have pleasant recollections of that luncheon together.

Yours sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

October 13, 1958

Dear Mr. Norweb:

Just returned from the New England Numismatic Association show and must say it was a good one. Best NENA convention so far. At least 200 more there than in past years. Prices at auction quite high. I purchased three lots [of Canadian coins] for you: Lot 1242, 1900 25-cents $25, Lot 1328, 1899 50-cents $125, Lot 1376, 1895 cent $35.

In regard to Lot 1629, the piece was overgraded and at best only Extremely Fine. I went to $70, and it sold on the floor for $75, and I would have had to go over $100, so I let it go. I called it to Harold's attention and he agreed, saying he didn't grade it. The 1899 is certainly Uncirculated, and was undergraded. Harold also agrees on this.

We will keep you in mind if anything nice shows up.

Regards,
Maurice

October 20, 1958

Dear Maurice:

Many thanks for your help at the NENA meeting. Here's my check for $213.50 for the three coins which arrived safely, plus an extra $10 which apparently covers some unpaid bill which I at this time do not remember.

I was glad to get the 1899 50-cent piece, but you will know the measure of my disappointment at not getting Lot 1629 when I say the example of this coin at present in the collection is only Very Good. An Extremely Fine specimen would have been most acceptable. . . .

Very sincerely,
Hon. R. Henry Norweb

Index

A

Abbey, Constance, 145
Adams, Edgar H., 82, 161
Adams, Eva, 12
Alaska, 60, 172
Alaska Gold Mines Company, 56
Amalgamated Copper, 53
American Ambulance Corps, 97, 174
American Collegiate Athletic Association, 51
American Exploration Company, 56
American Journal of Numismatics, 67, 82, 134
American Notes (Charles Dickens, 1842), 41, 42
American Numismatic Association, 12, 65, 67, 68, 75, 77, 78, 82, 84, 86, 147, 169, 174, 190, 192, 193, 194, 201
American Numismatic Society, 7, 11-13, 67, 82, 147, 149, 161, 196, 199-201
American Red Cross, 97
American Smelting and Refining Company, 53
Appleton Collection, 187
Arnold Arboretum, 87, 147
Arnold Numismatic Company, 84
Atwater, William C., 84
Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin, 22
Azores Bases Treaty, 126-142

B

Baker, Elbert H., 45, 47
Baldwin, A.H. and Sons, Ltd., 189, 194
Baldwin, Fred, 190, 192, 194
Barber, Charles E., 77, 82
Bement, Clarence, 63, 65
Bingham Canyon, Utah, 29, 31, 32, 53
Bingham Canyon and Camp Floyd Railroad Company, 31
Bishop, Judge Jesse P., 24
Bland-Allison Act, 32, 36, 47
Boise, Otis, 26
Bole, Benjamin P., 147
Bolender, Milfred H., 179, 184
Bolivia, 111, 126, 174, 182, 189
Bone, J.H.A., 45
Boston Numismatic Society, 67
Boston Stock Exchange, 53, 55
Bowers, Q. David, 7, 8, 11, 194, 199
Boyd, F.C.C., 196
Brand, Armin, 82
Brand, Horace Louis Philip, 82, 184, 185, 193, 194
Brand, Jane Allen, 190, 193
Brand, Virgil M., 51, 67, 71, 82, 184, 185, 190, 193
Brazil, 142
Breen, Walter, 84, 190
British Museum, 161
British Numismatic Society, 67
Brock-University of Pennsylvania Collection, 190, 192
Browne, Charles Farrar, 42
Bryan money, 48
Bryan, William Jennings, 41, 42, 48, 77
Bulkley, Charles H., 26, 27, 47
Bulkley, Delia Elizabeth (See Holden, Delia)
Bull, R.W., 65
Buss, Dr. Jerry, 199

C

Camp Douglas, 31
Canadian Numismatic Association, 201
Case Western Reserve University, 26
Catalogue of the Collection of Paintings Presented to the Cleveland Museum of Art by Mrs. Liberty E. Holden, 29
Central States Numismatic Society, 147
Chapman, Henry, 51, 65, 68, 71, 82, 84, 86, 147, 161, 170, 196
Chapman, Samuel Hudson, 78, 81, 82, 84, 86, 196
Charlotte Mint, 182
Chicago Coin Club, 67
Chicago Numismatic Society, 82
Chile, 111, 123, 145, 147, 174, 189
China, 111

Churchill, Winston, 113, 117
Clain-Stefanelli, Elvira, 12, 199
Clain-Stefanelli, Dr. Vladimir, 12, 199
Cleveland Art Association, 27
Cleveland Art School, 27
Cleveland Museum of Art, 27, 29, 107, 115, 201
Cleveland,The Making of a City (William G. Rose), 26
Cleveland Rolling Mill Company, 29
Clifford, Henry H., 67
Coin World, 12
Coinage Act of 1873, 31, 36, 40
Colby College (See Waterville College)
Cometallism, Gold, Silver, and Paper Money (Nicholas Veeder), 40, 47
Communion tokens, 12
Compania de Real del Monte y Pachuca, 56
Connecticut State coppers, 172, 187, 189
Connor, Colonel Patrick E., 31, 32
Copper Handbook (Also see *Mines Handbook)*, 55
Creole Incident, The, 41
Croix Rouge Francaise, 97
Crosby, Sylvester S., 73, 159, 161, 184, 185, 187
Cuba, 111, 113, 126, 140, 201

D

Dahlonega Mint, 182
DeLamar Copper Refining Company, 55
Deseret News, 32, 36, 40, 56
Dickens, Charles, 41, 42
Doan, William Halsey, 26
Doan's Corners, 27
Dohrmann, A., Collection, 65
Dominican Republic, 111, 123, 182, 189
Dooly, John, 36
Dunham, W.F., 68, 84
Dutch East Indies, 111

E

Early American Coins, 18, 21, 23, 30, 33, 37, 57, 66, 69, 70
Early Coins of America, The (S.S. Crosby), 159
Ebner Mine, 56
Economic Geology of the Bingham Mining District (C.M. Boutwell), 36
Edmunds, Senator George, 40
Egypt, 192, 193, 201
Eisenberg, Jerry, 193
Elder, Thomas L., 51, 61, 65, 67, 68, 71-73, 78, 84, 86, 159, 169, 170, 172, 174, 179, 182, 190
Emerson, Ralph Waldo, 42
Empress of Asia, 92
Eureka and Palisade Railroad Company, 55
Eureka Consolidated Mining Company, 55
Eureka-Richmond Mining Company, 55
Evans, George, 47

F

Fairmount Hotel, 26
Farley, John, 45
Farouk Collection, 192, 197, 201
Federal Coin Exchange, 193
Federal Lead Company, 53
Fifty Years of Cleveland, 1875-1925 (George Kennedy), 45
Ford, H.C., 26
Ford, John J., Jr., 48, 84, 190, 192-194, 196, 199
Forrer, Leonard, 190
Fosdick, Martha, 19
Fowler, Harry W., 13
France, 97-108, 124, 174
Francis, 17, 19
Franco, Generalissimo Francisco, 126, 136
Franklin, Benjamin, 22, 24
Franklin Furnace, 67
French Red Cross, 97
Frossard, Edward, 73

G

galena ore, 31
Galena Silver Mining Company, 36
Gardner, Libby (See Norweb, Elizabeth)
Garrett, John Work, 184
Garrett, T. Harrison, 68, 184
Gilbert, Ebenezer, 73
Gobrecht, Christian, 134
gold, 31
grading, 71, 169, 170
Granberg, H.O., 67
Gray, J.W., 41, 42
Green, Ben, 71, 72, 84, 182
Green, Colonel E.H.R., 196
Groton, Connecticut, 19, 20
Grunthal and Gans Company, 190
Guelph Treasure, The, 29
Guide Book of United States Coins, A, 65, 172, 179, 187, 193

H

Hague, The, 174
Hall, Dr. Thomas, 71, 73, 172, 184, 185, 189
Hancock Collection, 65
Hanna, Mark, 26
Hardy, Sheriff, 61
Harte, Bret, 29
Harrison, Benjamin, 40
Harvard University, 51, 53, 55, 63, 67, 92, 101, 123, 145
Haseltine, Captain John W., 73, 86
Hearst, William Randolph, 42
Heath, Dr. George F., 77
Heaton, Augustus G., 71, 78, 84
Herald, The, 41, 45
Hesslein, William, 71
Hirsch, Aron und Sohn, of Halberstadt, 55
Holden, Abiel, 17, 20

Holden, Albert Fairchild, 51-87; man of business, 51, 53; The United States Mining Company, 53, 55; The United States Smelting, Refining and Mining Company, 55, 56; Holden vs. Hardy (1898), 56, 61, 62, 63; collector's mind, 61, 63, 65, 67; coin collector, 67, 68, 71-73, 75; family man, 75, 87; reconstruction of Albert Holden's coin purchases for October 1908, 72, 73; numismatic library of the period 1908-1912, 75; numismatic scene in 1908, 77-86; 9, 11, 12, 17, 20, 32, 36, 47, 48, 52, 54, 91, 147, 161, 169, 170, 172, 179, 182, 184, 187, 189, 190, 194, 199
Holden Arboretum, The, 13, 87, 147, 148, 201
Holden Collection (minerals), 51
Holden, Delia Elizabeth Bulkley, 24, 27, 107, 115
Holden, Elizabeth, 75, 147, 159
Holden, Emery May (See Norweb, Emery May Holden)
Holden, John, 17, 20, 22
Holden, Justinian, 17, 19, 20, 22
Holden, Katherine Davis, 75, 87
Holden, Liberty Dean, 26, 45, 47
Holden, Liberty Emery, 17-48; Holden family: roots in England, 17, 19; Holden family: arrival in America, 19; Holdens in King Philip's War, 19, 20; Liberty Holden's early life, 22, 24; westward to Ohio, 24; Cleveland and success, 24, 26, 27; Liberty and the Cleveland Museum of Art, 27, 29; West to the mines, 29; early development of Utah mining, 29, 31; silver fields of Utah, 31, 32; The Old Jordan Mine, 32, 36, 40; silver and politics, 40, 41; *The Plain Dealer*, 41, 42, 45, 47; Liberty Holden and numismatics, 47, 48; 9, 11, 12, 25, 51, 115, 159
Holden, Martha, 20
Holden, Mary, 22
Holden, Peter, 22
Holden, Richard, 17, 19, 20, 22
Holden, Roman R., 45
Holden vs. Hardy (1898), 56, 61-63
holdenite, 67
Holding, Adam, 17
Holland, 111, 147
Hollenden Hotel, 26, 45, 47
Hollinbeck Stamp & Coin Company, 194
Hopital Auziliare 43bis, 97, 98
Hull, Cordell (Secretary of State), 136, 138
Huntington, Archer M., 82
Hydeman, E.M., 199

I

Illustrated History of the United States Mint, 47
International Numismatic Congress, 13, 149, 200, 201

J

Jackling, Daniel, 56, 67
Jackman, Allison (collection), 196
Japan, 92, 107, 108, 110, 125, 145
Jarves, James Jackson, 27, 115
Java (Indonesia), 111, 113
Jenks, J.S. (collection), 185
Jewett, H., 71
Johnson, B.G., 184, 185, 193, 196
Jordan Mining and Milling Company, 36
Jordan Mining and Smelting Company, 32, 36
Jordan Silver Mining Company, 31, 32
J.W. Scott & Co., 84

K

Kagin, Paul and Art, 190, 194
Kaplan, Sol, 193
Kempton Lode, 56
Kennan, George, 131
Kennecott Copper Company, 55
Kennedy, Charles E., 42, 45, 47
Kennedy, Daniel, 169
King, George H., 81
King Philip's War, 19, 20
Kolman, Mike, 193
Kosoff, Abe, 192, 193
Kuechle, Adam W., 67, 75

L

Lambert, Major Richard (collection), 48, 71, 161
Leader, The, 41, 45
Lee, Sherman E., 117
Liddell, Douglas, 190
Low, Lyman, 61, 67, 68, 71, 86, 147

M

Macao, 136
Mammoth Copper Mining Company, 55
Maris, Dr. Edward, 73, 184
Massachusetts Bay Colony, 17
Massachusetts Historical Society, 67
McCormack, W.S., 32
Mehl, B. Max, 65, 84, 111, 147, 182-187, 189, 190, 192, 193
Mercur Mine, 56
Metacomet, 19
Mexico, 111, 174, 182, 189
Milbank, Mr. & Mrs. Samuel R., 201
Miller, Henry C., 187, 189
Milliken, William, 117
Mines and mining: Alaska Gold Mines Company, 56; Amalgamated Copper, 53; American Exploration Company, 56; American Smelting and Refining Company, 53; Bingham Canyon, Utah, 29, 31, 32, 53; Compania de Real del Monte y Pachuca, 56; *Copper Handbook*, 55; DeLamar Copper Refining Company, 55; Ebner Mine, The, 56; Eureka Consolidated Mining Company, 55; Eureka-Richmond Mining Company, 55; Federal Lead Company, 53; Franklin Furnace, 67; galena ore, 31; Galena Silver Mining Company, 36; gold, 31; Holden collection (minerals), 51; Jordan Mining and Milling Company, 36; Jordan Mining and Smelting Company, 32, 36; Jordan Silver Mining Company, 31, 32; Kempton Lode, 56, Kennecott Copper Company, 55; Mammoth Copper Min-

ing Company, 55; Mercur Mine, 56; *Mines Handbook, The*, 53; Nez Perces Chief Mine, 31, 32; No-You-Don't Mine, 31, 32; Old Jordan and Galena Mining Company, 53; Old Jordan Mining Mine, 32, 61, 91; Old Jordan Mining Company, 32; Old Telegraph Mine, 32, 36, 53, 56; Perseverence Mine, 51, 56; Pittsburgh and Lake Angeline Iron Ore Mines, 29, 31; Real del Monte Mine, 56; Richmond Mining Company, 55; Sherman Silver Purchase Act 1890, 36, 45, 47; silver, 31; Societé des Mines d'Argent et Fonderies de Bingham, 32, 53; "soldier claims," 31; *The System of Mineralogy* (Dana), 65; Tri-Bullion Smelting and Development Company, 67; Tungsten, 126, 131, 138, 142; United States Mining Company, 32, 53, 55; United States Smelting, Refining and Mining Company, 55; Utah Copper Company, 55; Utah Mine Protective Association, 40, 47; *Wall vs. U.S. Mining Company*, 56; West Jordan Mine, 31
Morgenthau, J.C. and Company, 179, 182
Moore, E. Vernon, 174
Moore, Waldo C., 174
Mormon Church, 29 ff.
Morris, Charles (collection), 185
Mines Handbook, The, 53
Mongrol Tariff, 40, 47
Morey, Herbert E., 84
Morgan, George T., 77, 82
Mougey, Peter (collection), 68, 71, 159, 169, 170, 172

N

National Bimetallic Association, 40, 47
National Bimetallic League, 40
National Numismatic Collection, 179, 184, 185, 197, 199, 201
Newcomer, Waldo C. (collection), 184, 185, 194, 196
Newlin, Harold P., 73
Newman, Eric P., 187
New Netherlands Coin Company, 184, 187, 190-192, 196, 199
New York American, 42
New York Numismatic Club, 201
New York Stamp & Coin Company, 84, 184
Nez Perces Chief Mine, 31, 32
Noe, Sidney P., 161
Norweb, Albert Holden, 107, 187
Norweb Collection, 65, 159-203
Norweb, Elizabeth (Libby) Gardner, 7, 11-13, 145
Norweb, Emery May Holden, 91-117; early life (1896-1916), 91, 92, 97; France 1916-1918, 97-101; courtship and marriage 1916-1917, 101, 107; life in the foreign service 1918-1948, 107; the Far East, 107, 111; Latin America, 111, 113; Europe, 113; Cleveland Museum of Art, 115, 117; Norweb Collection, 65, 159-203; 17, 20, 48, 61, 67, 68, 71, 87, 93, 99, 100, 102, 108, 110, 125, 159, 172, 174, 179, 182, 185, 187, 189, 190, 193, 194, 196, 199, 201, 203
Norweb, Jeanne Katherine, 101, 187
Norweb, R. Henry, Jr., 7, 8, 11, 13, 87, 101, 145-149, 187, 196, 199
Norweb, R. Henry, Sr., 123-142; diplomatic career, 123, 141; Azores Bases Treaty (1943-1944), 126-142; Norweb Collection, 65, 159-203; 61, 92, 97, 101, 107, 108, 110, 113, 115, 117, 124, 125, 140, 145, 174, 182, 184, 185, 187, 189, 190, 193, 194, 196, 199, 201, 203
No-You-Don't Mine, 31, 32
Numismatic Monthly, 65, 84
Numismatist, The, 47, 65, 67, 75, 77, 78, 81, 84, 86, 174, 193

O

Old Jordan and Galena Mining Company, 53
Old Jordan Mine, 32, 61, 91
Old Jordan Mining Company, 32
Old Telegraph Mine, 32, 36, 53, 56
Olmsted Brothers, 147

P

Palache, Dr. Charles, 65, 67
Panama, 113, 142, 145
Panama-Pacific International Exposition, 77
Pan American Airways, 131, 138
Panic of 1873, The, 31
Panic of 1893, The, 36
Parker, Captain James, 19, 20
Parmelee, Lorin G. (collection), 71, 184, 185, 192
Perseverence Mine, 51, 56
Peru, 111, 189, 201
Picker, Richard, 190
Pittman, John Jay, 201
Plain Dealer, The, 12, 36, 41, 43, 44, 46, 47, 51, 53, 67, 113, 115, 145
Pittsburgh and Lake Angeline Iron Ore Mines, 29, 31
Poor Richard's Almanack, 22
Portugal, 113, 126, 189
Pratt, Bela Lyon, 82
Proskey, David, 71, 72, 159

R

Raymond, Wayte, 84, 179, 182, 190
Real del Monte Mine, 56
"Republic of Eutopia," 40
Richmond Mining Company, 55
Roosevelt, President Franklin D., 138
Rose, William Ganson, 26
Rose, William R., 45
Rothert, Matt, 12
Royal Numismatic Society, 201
Russell, Margo, 8, 11, 13, 202

S

Saint-Gaudens, Augustus, 77, 78, 81, 82, 178, 180, 186, 192
Salazar, Antonio de Oliveira, 126, 131, 136, 138
Salt Lake Academy, 36
Salt Lake City, 29
Salt Lake College, 40
Santos, R. de Silva, Jr. (collection), 182
Schulman, Hans M.F., 190
Scott Stamp & Coin Company, 71, 72, 159, 179, 182, 184
Scott, Walter S., 179

Sears, E.S., 67, 72, 182
Sharp, William G., 123
Shaw, Archer, 41
Sheldon, Dr. William, 179, 187
Sherman, Senator John, 40, 47
Sherman Silver Purchase Act 1890, 36, 445, 47
silver (See mines and mining)
Smith, A.M. (collection), 179, 189
Smithson Society, The, 201
Smithsonian Institution, The, 7, 11-13, 77, 179, 184, 185, 197-199, 201
Société des Mines d'Argent et Fonderies de Bingham, 32, 53
"soldier claims," 31
Spink & Son, Ltd., 190, 192, 193
Spink, David, 193
Stack's, 184
Standard Catalogue of United States Coins, 84, 179, 182, 192
Standard Coin Catalogue—Silver and Gold, 159
Star Rare Coin Encyclopedia, The, 84
State Coinage of Connecticut, The (1920), 187
Steigerwalt, Charles, 68, 84, 189
Stevens & Company, 72
Stickney, Matthew A. (collection), 48, 51, 71, 170
Stone, Amasa, 26, 27
Strobridge, W.H., 71, 169
System of Mineralogy, The (Dana), 65

T

Tariff for Protection. An Address Before the Workingmen at Cleveland, Ohio, February 17, 1883, (L.E. Holden), 41
Taxay, Don, 172
Ten Eyck Collection, 84, 185
Tennant Collection, 193
Third California Infantry, 31
Timor, 136
Treatise on the Coinage of the United States Branch Mints (Heaton), 71
Tri-Bullion Smelting and Development Company, 67
tungsten, 126, 131, 138, 142
Type Table of U.S. Dollars, Half Dollars, and Quarters (Haseltine), 73

U

United States Assay Commission, 201
United States Coin Company, 84
United States Coins: 1792 Mint patterns, 74, 76; half cents, 79, 80, 83; large cents, 85, 94, 95; small cents, 94; two-cent pieces, 96; silver three-cent pieces, 96; nickel three-cent pieces, 96; nickel five-cent pieces, 103; half dimes, 104; dimes, 105, 106; twenty-cent pieces, 112; quarter dollars, 116, 118, 119, 120; half dollars, 127-130; silver dollars, 132-135, 137, 139; Trade dollars, 150; gold dollars, 151; quarter eagles, 152; three-dollar gold pieces, 153; half eagles, 155, 157, 171, 173, 175, 176, 182; eagles, 154, 177, 178; double eagles, 180, 183; 1861 Paquet reverse double eagle, 181; MCMVII High Relief double eagle, 186; commemoratives, 188, 191; private gold coins, 195
United States Mining Company, 32, 53, 55
United States Mint, 12
United States Smelting, Refining and Mining Company, 55
University of Michigan, 24
Utah Central Railroad, 31
Utah Copper Company, 55
Utah Mine Protective Association, 40, 47
Utah Mining Industry (See mines and mining)

V

Vail, Harry L., 45
Valentine, Daniel, 172
Veeder, Nicholas, 40, 47
Villa, Pancho, 56

W

Wall vs. U.S. Mining Company, 56
Wampanoag Indians, 19, 20
Ward, Artemus, 42
Ward, Philip H., 190, 192
Washington Conference on Limitation of Naval Armaments, 107
Waterville College (Colby College), 24
West Jordan Mine, 31
Westover School, 91, 97
Whitman Publishing Company, 179
Whitney Museum of American Art, 117
Wilson, James B., 67, 71, 159, 170
Winthrop, Adam, 17
Winthrop, Governor John, 17, 19
Wolff, Professor, 56, 61, 63, 73
Women's War Relief Corps, 98
Wood, Howland, 81
Woodin, William H., 161
Wormser, Charles, 190, 192, 196
Wormser, Moritz, 190

Y

Young, Brigham, 29

Z

Zabriski, Andrew C. (collection), 65, 71, 170
Zerbe, Farran, 67, 77, 81, 82, 86